Office of the State Auditor

Audit & Reporting Group
Agenda: Nov. 21, 2024

I. **Call to Order**
Chair Auditor Blaha.

II. **Attendance**
Roll call.

III. **Review and Approval of Minutes**
Meeting Minutes October 30, 2024.

IV. **Cash Basis v. GAAP: What are the options?**
Sibley County Audit
Flensburg City Audit

VI. **Preview Next Meeting Topics**

VII. **Next Meeting**
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
In-Person/Virtual Hybrid Format

VII. **Adjournment**

The OSA appreciates your participation in the Audit and Reporting Group. Your participation is optional, but without it we would lack your expertise. The Audit and Reporting Group meeting will be recorded, and by participating you consent to being included. The recording will be accessible to the public upon request for a limited time.

Individuals with disabilities who need reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, please contact Nadine Kottom-Dale at (612) 391-7000 or (800) 627-3529 (TTY) by July 30, 2024.

Meeting Minutes
10-30-24 Draft Minutes

Members Present
Julie Blaha, State Auditor
State Senator Heather Gustafson
Representative Patti Anderson
Representative Bjorn Olson
Lisa Sova, League of Minnesota Cities
David Frame, Minnesota Association of Townships
Kelly Gutierrez, Minnesota Charter Schools Association
Sharon Provos, Association of Metropolitan Municipalities
Wilfredo Roman-Catala, Minnesota Inter-County Association
E.J. Moberg, Minnesota Government Finance Officers Association
Chris Knopik, Minnesota Government Finance Officers Association
Jennifer Smith, Minnesota Association of School Business Officials
Andy Berg, Minnesota Society of CPAs
Miranda Wendlandt, Minnesota Society of CPAs
Jamie Fay, CPA, and Stakeholder
Martha Burton, Department of Revenue
Jake Sieg, Association of Minnesota Counties

Members Excused
Joel Stencel, Minnesota School Boards Association
Cap O'Rourke, MN Association of Small Cities
Cristen Christensen, MN Inter-County Association
Paul Moore, Department of Management and Budget
Andi Johnson, Minnesota Association of School Business Officials
Cathy Erickson, Department of Education
Charles Selcer, Minnesota Board of Accountancy
Jake Rossow, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Office of the State Auditor and Legislative Support Present
Chad Struss, Deputy State Auditor
Ramona Advani, Deputy State Auditor
Nadine Kottom-Dale, Communications Director, and Lead Staffer
Lisa Young, Director of Standards and Procedures
Kathy Docter, Government Information
John Jernberg, Government Information
Christy John, Government Information

I. Call to Order
Auditor Blaha called the meeting to order.

II. Introductions
Nadine Kottom-Dale called the roll.

III. **Review and Approval of Working Group Meeting Minutes**

Members reviewed the October 8, 2024, meeting minutes that had been provided in advance. The meeting minutes were accepted with no changes.

IV. **Agreed Upon Procedures Group Discussion**

Lisa Young gave a broad overview of an AUP on behalf of the OSA: For smaller entities that may not yet require a full audit, the OSA develops a set of basic procedures for an independent accountant or CPA to follow. These procedures are designed to assess key operations and provide a snapshot of the entity's financial practices.

The goal is to give a clear understanding of how the entity is operating, particularly in terms of basic financial tasks, internal controls, and compliance with Minnesota legal requirements. While not as detailed as a full audit, this process offers a straightforward overview that is easy to read and helps highlight any potential areas of concern.

Lisa Young explained that what's guiding the current approach to AUPs from OSA is primarily focusing on what could go wrong and ensuring compliance. OSA legal compliance audit guides provide a solid framework, having been vetted by many people. Part of the process is checking against those guidelines. Another key consideration is identifying the basic procedures that the public would expect an independent party to perform. While this is somewhat subjective, the goal has been to outline procedures that reflect those expectations.

The group discussed the challenges small entities face in implementing internal controls, especially the difficulty of segregating duties with limited staff. Suggestions included involving City or Town Council members in reviewing financial processes, such as bank statements, and ensuring basic controls like bank reconciliations and disbursement reviews are consistently performed. Overall, the focus was on maintaining simple yet essential controls to ensure accountability and transparency.

It was suggested that the AUP serve as a baseline, encouraging governing boards to identify and address their key risks. Overly prescriptive guidelines could lead to complacency, with boards assuming the state will handle everything. A possible goal could be to empower boards to take responsibility for internal controls, with ultimate accountability resting on local elected officials, not the state auditor.

Another key point raised was the value of randomized transaction testing, which can help detect potential issues and increase staff awareness that their work is being reviewed by someone knowledgeable.

The importance of clear, well-defined procedures was brought up to ensure all parties understand expectations. Ambiguity, like undefined terms could lead to inconsistent interpretations. Clear procedures help ensure consistency in internal controls and transactional processes.

V. **City Classifications and Legislative Exemptions**

Auditor Blaha presented an interactive graph that compared cities with their populations. Kathy Docter pointed out that while only cities with populations over 2,500 are required to undergo a GAAP audit (around 237 cities), more than 500 cities are actually reporting on a GAAP basis. Auditor Blaha noted that even if the threshold was changed so that more could do a cash basis, they might not even change a thing. Chris Knopik noted that this issue could stem from state agencies changing funding that then requires a single audit for small communities, often due to compliance requirements. This can lead to small entities needing to switch auditors or incur additional costs.

Jamie Fay shared that many of her clients opt for a GAAP-based audit, not because they want to, but because they believe it's a requirement. Some cities are unaware they could report on a cash basis, so many default to GAAP out of caution. It was suggested that providing clearer guidance or clarification could help. Auditor Blaha suggested conducting a survey of cities that do GAAP audits despite not being required could offer insights and help identify potential areas for change, particularly with state agencies like the Department of Agriculture that may be influencing these decisions.

Jake Sieg suggested adjusting thresholds for audit requirements to account for temporary spikes in revenue, such as from a one-time project or debt issuance. One proposal was to trigger audit requirements if a city or town exceeds certain revenue levels for two or three out of five years, rather than just one year. He also raised the idea that cities or townships that do not receive state aid, and rely mainly on property taxes, may not require state oversight.

Jamie Fay discussed how some states require a rotating audit every few years, which might be more predictable for CPA firms than handling one-off audits. While audits every few years might not always be feasible due to the initial lift required, an AUP (Agreed-Upon Procedure) could be a more practical solution, as it doesn't involve the same complexities related to beginning balance testing.

Kathy Docter highlighted that some cities with populations under 2,500 that have separate clerks and treasurers are not required to undergo audits, even if they have substantial revenues. This means that cities with revenues up to $578 million may not be audited unless they have specific debt or grant requirements. She suggested that if the population was removed and focusing solely on revenue could bring more cities into the audit requirement.

VI. Preview Next Meeting Topics

Overall, the next meeting will primarily address cash vs. GAAP accounting and the legal compliance guide, with some time dedicated to gathering relevant data and examples to inform the discussion. The group is aiming to create a report that will help decision-makers, particularly legislators, as they evaluate and write bills.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

State of Minnesota

Office of the State Auditor

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Year Ended December 31, 2023

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Table of Contents

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Table of Contents

Introductory Section

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Organization
December 31, 2023

Office	Name	Term Expires
Commissioners		
1st District	Peter Koch*	January 2027
2nd District	Christian Lilienthal	January 2027
3rd District	Lyle Grochow	January 2025
4th District	Joe Kreger	January 2025
5th District	Steve Saxton	January 2027
Officers		
Elected		
Attorney	Donald Lannoye	January 2027
Auditor-Treasurer	Marilee Peterson	January 2027
Recorder	Kathy Dietz	January 2027
Registrar of Titles	Kathy Dietz	January 2027
Sheriff	Pat Nienaber	January 2027
Appointed		
Administrator	John Glisczinski	Indefinite
Assessor	Laura Hacker	December 2024
Court Administrator	Karen Messner (State)	Indefinite
Court Services Director	Angie Weston (State)	Indefinite
Emergency Management Manager	Andrew Hayden	Indefinite
Examiner of Titles	Rachel Holland	Indefinite
Extension Educator	Emma Severns	Indefinite
Human Resources Manager	Jodi Coleman	Indefinite
Information Technology Manager	Alan Cole	Indefinite
Medical Examiner	A. Quinn Strobl, MD	December 2024
Public Health and Human Services Director	Klea Rettmann	Indefinite
Public Works Director	Timothy Becker	April 2025
Surveyor	Luke Kranz	December 2024
Veterans Service Officer	Lisa Klenk	August 2024

*Chair

Financial Section

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Office of the State Auditor

Suite 500
525 Park Street
Saint Paul, MN 55103

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners
Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sibley County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sibley County as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, its cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Sibley Estates of Sibley County for the year ended December 31, 2023, which represent the amounts shown as the business-type activities and the major proprietary fund. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Sibley Estates of Sibley County, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. In addition, we did not audit the financial statements of the South Country Health Alliance (SCHA), in which Sibley County has an equity interest, for the year ended December 31, 2023. The SCHA is a joint venture discussed in Note 5 to the financial statements. The County's investment in the SCHA joint venture, $6,335,063, represents 4.7 percent and 5.6 percent, respectively, of the assets and net position of the governmental activities. The statements of the SCHA joint venture, which were prepared in accordance with financial reporting provisions permitted by the Minnesota Department of Health, were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us. We have applied audit procedures on the conversion adjustments to the financial statements of the SCHA joint venture, which conform the financial reporting of the investment in joint venture to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amount included as an investment in joint venture, prior to these conversion adjustments, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. The financial statements of the SCHA were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and

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appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions. The financial statements of the SCHA joint venture were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Emphasis of Matter – Change in Accounting Principle
As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, in 2023, the County adopted new accounting guidance by implementing the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, which represents a change in accounting principle. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit;

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements;

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed;

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements; and

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis; Budgetary Comparison Schedules for the General Fund, Public Works Special Revenue Fund, and Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund; Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios – Other Postemployment Benefits; PERA retirement plan schedules; and Notes to the Required Supplementary Information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the GASB, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Sibley County's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor funds and fiduciary funds financial statements, Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Debt Service Fund, Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue, and Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and related notes, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Supplementary Information as identified above is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 30, 2024, on our consideration of Sibley County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Sibley County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Sibley County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The financial statements of the SCHA joint venture were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and, accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or instances of reportable noncompliance associated with the SCHA joint venture.

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Chad Struss, CPA
Deputy State Auditor

July 30, 2024

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Management's Discussion and Analysis
December 31, 2023
(Unaudited)

The financial management of Sibley County offers the readers of Sibley County's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activity of Sibley County for the year ended December 31, 2023. We encourage our readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have provided in our notes to the financial statements.

Financial Highlights

- Sibley County's governmental activities' total net position is $112,718,491, of which $76,574,262 is the net investment in capital assets, and $14,471,906 is restricted for specific purposes.

- Business-type activities' total net position is $848,073, of which $511,535 is the net investment in capital assets, and $95,296 is restricted for housing and redevelopment.

- Governmental activities' total net position increased by $8,912,869 in 2023. The net position of the County's business-type activities increased by $10,959.

- At the close of 2023, the unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was $6,495,623, or 53.5 percent, of the total General Fund expenditures. This amount will be available for 2024 budgeting purposes.

- The net cost of governmental activities in 2023 decreased by $4,693,022 from the previous year, lowering the total to $10,437,995. The net cost of governmental activities was funded by general revenues and contributions totaling $19,350,864.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. Sibley County's basic financial statements consist of three parts: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The MD&A, certain budgetary comparisons, a schedule of changes in the total other postemployment benefits liability and related ratios, schedules of the proportionate share of net pension liability and schedules of contributions, and notes to the required supplementary information are required to accompany the basic financial statements and, therefore, are included as required supplementary information.

There are two government-wide financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (Exhibits 1 and 2) provide information about the activities of the County as a whole and present a longer-term view of the County's finances. Fund financial statements start with Exhibit 3. For governmental activities, fund financial statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the County's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the County's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the County acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of Sibley County's finances in a manner that is similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position (Exhibit 1) presents information on all of Sibley County's assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows/inflows of resources. The difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is called net position. Over time, an increase or decrease in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of Sibley County has improved or deteriorated.

The Statement of Activities (Exhibit 2) presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. For that reason, some revenues and/or expenses reported in this statement are for items that will result in cash flows in future periods (for example, delinquent taxes and earned but unused vacation and severance leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of Sibley County that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the County is divided into two kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities—Most of the County's basic services are reported here, including general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, human services, health, culture and recreation, conservation of natural resources, and economic development. Property taxes and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

- Business-type activities—The County charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of the services it provides. The activities of Sibley Estates are reported here.

Government-wide financial statements can be found on Exhibits 1 and 2.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Sibley County, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related requirements. The County Board may also establish some funds to help it control and manage money for a particular purpose or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. All of the funds of Sibley County can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental funds Balance Sheet and the governmental funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

- Governmental funds—Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same function as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

  Sibley County maintains five individual major governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental funds Balance Sheet and the governmental funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for the General Fund, Public Works Special Revenue Fund, Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund, Ditch Special Revenue Fund, and Capital Projects Fund. The Revolving Loan, Sub-Surface Sewage Treatment System Loans, and Water Projects Special Revenue Funds, along with the Debt Service Fund and Federal Lands Permanent Fund, are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor funds is provided in the form of combining statements within the Supplementary Information section of this report.

Governmental fund financial statements can be found on Exhibits 3 through 6.

- Proprietary funds—When the County charges customers for the services it provides, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the County's enterprise fund (a type of proprietary fund) presents the same information as the business-type activities in the government-wide statements but provides more detail and additional information, such as cash flows.

Proprietary fund financial statements can be found on Exhibits 7 through 9.

- Fiduciary funds—The County is the trustee, or fiduciary, over assets that can be used only for the trust beneficiaries based on the trust arrangement. All of the County's fiduciary activities are reported in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position on Exhibits 10 and 11. These activities are excluded from the County's other financial statements because the County cannot use these assets to finance its ongoing operations. The County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

A useful tool for analyzing financial statements is to compare information from the previous year. Table I shows a two-year net position comparison.

Table I
Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total Primary Government	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Assets						
Current and other assets	$ 53,529,420	$ 45,516,245	$ 365,608	$ 420,232	$ 53,895,028	$ 45,936,477
Capital assets	81,252,165	78,920,478	511,535	449,211	81,763,700	79,369,689
Total Assets	$ 134,781,585	$ 124,436,723	$ 877,143	$ 869,443	$ 135,658,728	$ 125,306,166
Deferred Outflows of Resources	$ 4,760,062	$ 6,505,833	$ -	$ -	$ 4,760,062	$ 6,505,833
Liabilities						
Long-term liabilities	$ 17,668,075	$ 23,960,977	$ -	$ -	$ 17,668,075	$ 23,960,977
Other liabilities	3,585,220	2,683,924	29,070	32,329	3,614,290	2,716,253
Total Liabilities	$ 21,253,295	$ 26,644,901	$ 29,070	$ 32,329	$ 21,282,365	$ 26,677,230
Deferred Inflows of Resources	$ 5,569,861	$ 492,033	$ -	$ -	$ 5,569,861	$ 492,033
Net Position						
Net investment in capital assets	$ 76,574,262	$ 74,119,863	$ 511,535	$ 449,211	$ 77,085,797	$ 74,569,074
Restricted	14,471,906	10,271,613	95,296	85,465	14,567,202	10,357,078
Unrestricted	21,672,323	19,414,146	241,242	302,438	21,913,565	19,716,584
Total Net Position	$ 112,718,491	$ 103,805,622	$ 848,073	$ 837,114	$ 113,566,564	$ 104,642,736

The net position of the County's governmental activities increased by 8.59 percent ($8,912,869) from 2022 to 2023. Unrestricted net position—the part of net position that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements—changed from $19,414,146 at December 31, 2022, to $21,672,323 at the end of this year. Net position of the business-type activities increased $10,959 (or 1.31 percent) for 2023.

Table II
Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities 2023	Governmental Activities 2022	Business-Type Activities 2023	Business-Type Activities 2022	Total Primary Government 2023	Total Primary Government 2022
Revenues						
Program revenues						
Fees, charges, fines, and other	$ 10,545,888	$ 7,568,655	$ 230,336	$ 195,168	$ 10,776,224	$ 7,763,823
Operating grants and contributions	12,456,963	11,237,581	180,289	179,975	12,637,252	11,417,556
Capital grants and contributions	1,079,937	116,175	-	-	1,079,937	116,175
General revenues						
Property taxes	16,034,089	15,971,274	-	-	16,034,089	15,971,274
Gravel taxes	101,145	106,637	-	-	101,145	106,637
Wheelage taxes	171,901	172,530	-	-	171,901	172,530
Payments in lieu of tax	46,065	63,917	-	-	46,065	63,917
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	1,156,081	1,176,118	-	-	1,156,081	1,176,118
Investment earnings	1,414,726	183,491	8,200	3,614	1,422,926	187,105
Miscellaneous and other	387,997	384,662	-	-	387,997	384,662
Contributions to permanent fund	38,860	-	-	-	38,860	-
Total Revenues	$ 43,433,652	$ 36,981,040	$ 418,825	$ 378,757	$ 43,852,477	$ 37,359,797
Expenses						
General government	$ 6,493,021	$ 6,053,789	$ -	$ -	$ 6,493,021	$ 6,053,789
Public safety	5,127,244	4,750,714	-	-	5,127,244	4,750,714
Highways and streets	9,090,720	8,946,833	-	-	9,090,720	8,946,833
Sanitation	520,168	526,432	-	-	520,168	526,432
Human services	4,871,407	5,275,483	-	-	4,871,407	5,275,483
Health	1,203,922	1,194,910	-	-	1,203,922	1,194,910
Culture and recreation	371,123	483,956	-	-	371,123	483,956
Conservation of natural resources	6,185,385	6,174,087	-	-	6,185,385	6,174,087
Economic development	271,407	270,347	-	-	271,407	270,347
Interest	386,386	376,877	-	-	386,386	376,877
Sibley Estates	-	-	407,866	421,180	407,866	421,180
Total Expenses	$ 34,520,783	$ 34,053,428	$ 407,866	$ 421,180	$ 34,928,649	$ 34,474,608
Changes in Net Position	$ 8,912,869	$ 2,927,612	$ 10,959	$ (42,423)	$ 8,923,828	$ 2,885,189
Net Position – January 1	103,805,622	100,878,010	837,114	879,537	104,642,736	101,757,547
Net Position – December 31	$ 112,718,491	$ 103,805,622	$ 848,073	$ 837,114	$ 113,566,564	$ 104,642,736

The County's expenses for governmental activities increased $467,355 from 2022.

Governmental Activities

As shown in the Statement of Activities (Exhibit 2), the amount that taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through County taxes and non-program revenues was $10,437,995 because some of the cost was paid by those who directly benefited from the programs or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with operating or capital grants and contributions.

Table III represents the cost of each of the County's program functions, as well as each function's net cost (total cost, less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the County's taxpayers by each of these functions.

Table III
Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost (Revenue) of Services	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Expenses				
General government	$ 6,493,021	$ 6,053,789	$ 5,436,949	$ 4,951,906
Public safety	5,127,244	4,750,714	4,080,358	4,203,312
Highways and streets	9,090,720	8,946,833	1,021,989	1,624,547
Sanitation	520,168	526,432	(45,079)	(56,349)
Human services	4,871,407	5,275,483	457,802	1,808,226
Health	1,203,922	1,194,910	798,077	735,043
Culture and recreation	371,123	483,956	320,163	442,093
Conservation of natural resources	6,185,385	6,174,087	(2,109,775)	864,009
Economic development	271,407	270,347	91,125	181,353
Interest	386,386	376,877	386,386	376,877
Total Expenses	$ 34,520,783	$ 34,053,428	$ 10,437,995	$ 15,131,017

The County's Funds

The focus of Sibley County's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing Sibley County's financing requirements. In particular, unrestricted balances may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, Sibley County's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of $30,462,619. This is an increase of $1,284,471 in comparison to the prior fiscal year. Of the $30,462,619 total fund balances, $21,142,363 constitutes unrestricted fund balances, which are available for spending at the government's discretion or represents the deficit balance in the Ditch Special Revenue Fund.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund for Sibley County. At the end of the fiscal year, unrestricted fund balance (committed, assigned, and unassigned) of the General Fund was $7,032,254 (or 71.1 percent of the total General Fund's fund balance). As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the unrestricted fund balance to total expenditures. The unrestricted fund balance represents 57.9 percent of total General Fund expenditures. In 2023, the fund balance amount in the General Fund increased $1,131,350. This increase is due to more than anticipated revenues.

The Public Works Special Revenue Fund had a total fund balance of $12,726,648 at the end of 2023. This is an increase of $335,099. This increase was due to more highway and bridge, equipment and maintenance revenues than anticipated and less expenses in these same areas. The Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund had a total fund balance of $5,760,765 at the end of the current fiscal year. This is an increase of $25,990 that can primarily be attributed to less than anticipated expenses and more than anticipated revenues in this area. The Ditch Special Revenue Fund had a negative fund balance of $4,318,680, which is an increase of $623,543 from the prior year. The increase is due to prepayments received for a large special assessment. The Capital Projects Fund ended 2023 with a fund balance of $4,634,095. This is a decrease of $874,337. The decrease is due to the purchasing of capital assets.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

No budget amendments were made for 2023. The actual revenues were $2,233,849 more than the budgeted revenues, and actual expenditures were more than expected by $889,935. Actual revenue exceeded budgeted revenue due to underbudgeted intergovernmental revenue and investment earnings. Actual expenditures were more than budgeted expenditures due mostly to underbudgeted public safety and general government expenditures.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Table IV illustrates a two-year comparison of the County's capital assets (net of depreciation and amortization).

Table IV
Capital Assets at Year-End
(Net of Depreciation and Amortization)

	2023	2022
Governmental Activities		
Land	$ 1,838,531	$ 1,812,677
Construction in progress	4,430,998	3,739,375
Infrastructure	61,519,509	59,695,500
Buildings and building improvements	8,589,758	8,974,090
Machinery, furniture, and equipment	4,361,592	4,414,287
Improvements other than buildings	386,577	284,549
Leased equipment	91,804	-
Software subscriptions	33,396	-
Total	$ 81,252,165	$ 78,920,478
Business-Type Activities	$ 511,535	$ 449,211

The County's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of December 31, 2023, was $81,252,165 (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization). This investment in capital assets includes a broad range of capital assets including, but not limited to, land, buildings, highways and streets, furniture, and equipment. The County's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities increased by 2.95 percent, or $2,331,687.

The County's investment in capital assets for its business-type activities increased by $62,324 in the current year from $449,211 in 2022, to $511,535 in 2023.

Long-Term Debt

At the end of the current fiscal year, the County had total outstanding debt of $5,765,000, versus $6,195,000 last year—a decrease of $430,000, or 6.9 percent—as shown in Table V. The decrease is due to scheduled debt payments.

Table V
Outstanding Debt at Year-End

	2023	2022
General obligation bonds	$ 4,470,000	$ 4,715,000
General obligation special assessment bonds	1,295,000	1,480,000
Total	$ 5,765,000	$ 6,195,000

The County maintains a general obligation bond rating of “Aa2”. This is an increase from the prior year bond rating of “Aa3”. This rating is assigned by national rating agencies. The state limits the amount of net debt counties can issue to three percent of the total taxable market value of all property. In 2023, the taxable market value was $3,955,709,863 and, in 2022, the amount was $3,292,384,044. The County’s outstanding net debt of $5,765,000 is significantly below the state-imposed limit of $118,671,296.

Economic Factors and Next Year’s Budgets and Rates

The County’s elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2024 budget and the tax rates and fees that will be charged for government services.

- State aid from the State of Minnesota for 2024 ($823,358) is up 30.9 percent compared to 2023 ($628,897).

- For fiscal year 2024, Sibley County’s total taxable market value is $4,850,552,303. This is an increase of $894,842,440, or 22.6 percent, from the 2023 total taxable market value of $3,955,709,863. This increase is a result of the County Sales Ratio Study conducted by the Sibley County Assessor’s Office. These studies are used to update market values on a yearly basis and are based on actual land transactions in the County from year to year.

- The unemployment rate for Sibley County as of May 2024 is 3.3 percent. Sibley County’s unemployment rate is higher than the state unemployment rate of 2.8 percent. The unemployment rate is down from last year when Sibley County’s rate was 3.7 percent, which was 0.8 percentage points higher than the state average of 2.9 percent.

- On December 26, 2023, the Sibley County Board of Commissioners approved the 2024 budget for $59,787,037. The 2024 total levy is $17,632,343, and the total net tax levy was $16,808,985 (reduced by County Program Aid). This was an increase from the 2023 total net tax levy of $16,415,003. The 2024 budget includes a 2.4 percent overall property tax increase.

Contacting the County’s Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the County’s finances and to show the County’s accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, or need additional financial information, please contact the Office of the Sibley County Auditor/Treasurer, Sibley County Courthouse, 400 Court Avenue, PO Box 51, Gaylord, Minnesota 55334, finance@sibleycounty.gov, or you can visit our website at www.sibleycounty.gov.

Basic Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 1

Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Assets			
Cash and pooled investments	$ 29,295,922	$ 253,048	$ 29,548,970
Tenant deposits held in trust	-	16,974	16,974
Restricted deposits	-	93,754	93,754
Petty cash and change funds	6,125	300	6,425
Investments	302,000	-	302,000
Taxes receivable – delinquent	128,794	-	128,794
Special assessments receivable – delinquent	24,056	-	24,056
Special assessments receivable – noncurrent	7,353,313	-	7,353,313
Accounts receivable – net	723,617	819	724,436
Accrued interest receivable	688,192	-	688,192
Due from other governments	7,309,349	-	7,309,349
Loans receivable	92,312	-	92,312
Inventories	1,000,503	-	1,000,503
Prepaid items	270,174	713	270,887
Investment in joint venture	6,335,063	-	6,335,063
Capital assets			
Non-depreciable or amortizable	6,269,529	23,500	6,293,029
Depreciable or amortizable – net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	74,982,636	488,035	75,470,671
Total Assets	**$ 134,781,585**	**$ 877,143**	**$ 135,658,728**
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Deferred other postemployment benefits outflows	$ 42,316	$ -	$ 42,316
Deferred pension outflows	4,717,746	-	4,717,746
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	**$ 4,760,062**	**$ -**	**$ 4,760,062**
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	$ 940,383	$ 8,856	$ 949,239
Salaries payable	757,639	-	757,639
Contracts payable	123,290	-	123,290
Retainage payable	10,185	-	10,185
Due to other governments	1,491,689	3,859	1,495,548
Accrued interest payable	56,295	923	57,218
Unearned revenue	205,739	-	205,739
Security deposits payable	-	15,432	15,432
Compensated absences payable	507,966	-	507,966
General obligation bonds payable	250,000	-	250,000
General obligation special assessment bonds payable	75,000	-	75,000
AgBMP loans payable	181,475	-	181,475
Leases payable	19,967	-	19,967
Software subscription liability	8,817	-	8,817

Exhibit 1
(Continued)

Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Liabilities (Continued)			
Noncurrent liabilities			
Compensated absences payable	1,373,391	-	1,373,391
General obligation bonds payable – net	4,299,941	-	4,299,941
General obligation special assessment bonds payable – net	1,250,618	-	1,250,618
AgBMP loans payable	1,217,939	-	1,217,939
Leases payable	74,179	-	74,179
Software subscription liability	27,837	-	27,837
Other postemployment benefits liability	497,775	-	497,775
Net pension liability	7,883,170	-	7,883,170
Total Liabilities	**$ 21,253,295**	**$ 29,070**	**$ 21,282,365**
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Prepaid property taxes	$ 139,608	$ -	$ 139,608
Deferred other postemployment benefits inflows	288,665	-	288,665
Deferred pension inflows	5,141,588	-	5,141,588
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	**$ 5,569,861**	**$ -**	**$ 5,569,861**
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	$ 76,574,262	$ 511,535	$ 77,085,797
Restricted for			
General government	459,079	-	459,079
Public safety	1,766,093	-	1,766,093
Highways and streets	8,340,136	-	8,340,136
Sanitation	361,533	-	361,533
Human services	111,547	-	111,547
Culture and recreation	36,785	-	36,785
Conservation of natural resources	2,026,793	-	2,026,793
Economic development	378,017	-	378,017
Housing and redevelopment	-	95,296	95,296
Debt service	600,823	-	600,823
Permanent fund principal – nonexpendable	261,377	-	261,377
Opioid remediation activities	129,723	-	129,723
Unrestricted	21,672,323	241,242	21,913,565
Total Net Position	**$ 112,718,491**	**$ 848,073**	**$ 113,566,564**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Expenses	Fees, Charges, Fines, and Other
Functions/Programs		
Primary government		
Governmental activities		
General government	$ 6,493,021	$ 854,031
Public safety	5,127,244	209,941
Highways and streets	9,090,720	172,152
Sanitation	520,168	485,718
Human services	4,871,407	524,574
Health	1,203,922	116,160
Culture and recreation	371,123	9,500
Conservation of natural resources	6,185,385	8,085,387
Economic development	271,407	88,425
Interest	386,386	-
Total governmental activities	**$ 34,520,783**	**$ 10,545,888**
Business-type activities		
Sibley Estates	407,866	230,336
Total Primary Government	**$ 34,928,649**	**$ 10,776,224**

General Revenues
Property taxes
Gravel taxes
Wheelage taxes
Payments in lieu of tax
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs
Investment earnings
Miscellaneous
Contributions to permanent fund

Total general revenues and contributions

Change in net position

Net Position – January 1

Net Position – December 31

Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
		Primary Government		
Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
$ 202,041	$ -	$ (5,436,949)	$ -	$ (5,436,949)
836,945	-	(4,080,358)	-	(4,080,358)
6,855,157	1,041,422	(1,021,989)	-	(1,021,989)
79,529	-	45,079	-	45,079
3,889,031	-	(457,802)	-	(457,802)
289,685	-	(798,077)	-	(798,077)
2,945	38,515	(320,163)	-	(320,163)
209,773	-	2,109,775	-	2,109,775
91,857	-	(91,125)	-	(91,125)
-	-	(386,386)	-	(386,386)
$ 12,456,963	**$ 1,079,937**	**$ (10,437,995)**	**$ -**	**$ (10,437,995)**
180,289	-	-	2,759	2,759
$ 12,637,252	**$ 1,079,937**	**$ (10,437,995)**	**$ 2,759**	**$ (10,435,236)**
		$ 16,034,089	$ -	$ 16,034,089
		101,145	-	101,145
		171,901	-	171,901
		46,065	-	46,065
		1,156,081	-	1,156,081
		1,414,726	8,200	1,422,926
		387,997	-	387,997
		38,860	-	38,860
		$ 19,350,864	**$ 8,200**	**$ 19,359,064**
		$ 8,912,869	**$ 10,959**	**$ 8,923,828**
		103,805,622	**837,114**	**104,642,736**
		$ 112,718,491	**$ 848,073**	**$ 113,566,564**

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental Funds

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

	General	Public Works
Assets		
Cash and pooled investments	$ 7,102,839	$ 11,875,063
Petty cash and change funds	5,875	-
Investments	-	-
Taxes receivable – delinquent	60,751	36,488
Special assessments receivable		
Delinquent	3,972	-
Noncurrent	-	-
Accounts receivable – net	138,180	25,220
Accrued interest receivable	688,192	-
Due from other funds	2,968,915	21,212
Due from other governments	63,423	6,070,063
Loans receivable	-	-
Inventories	-	1,000,503
Prepaid items	177,521	21,748
Total Assets	**$ 11,209,668**	**$ 19,050,297**
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ 234,437	$ 119,276
Salaries payable	370,195	100,284
Contracts payable	-	123,290
Retainage payable	-	10,185
Due to other funds	21,236	24
Due to other governments	311,147	67,109
Unearned revenue	161,745	-
Total Liabilities	**$ 1,098,760**	**$ 420,168**
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Unavailable revenue	$ 149,601	$ 5,865,667
Prepaid property taxes	69,508	37,814
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	**$ 219,109**	**$ 5,903,481**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Public Health and Human Services	Ditch	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
$ 5,428,212	$ 1,545,149	$ 1,646,084	$ 1,698,575	$ 29,295,922
250	-	-	-	6,125
-	277,000	-	25,000	302,000
28,550	-	-	3,005	128,794
-	6,391	-	13,693	24,056
-	6,159,333	-	1,193,980	7,353,313
560,217	-	-	-	723,617
-	-	-	-	688,192
48	-	3,000,000	-	5,990,175
624,174	509,669	-	42,020	7,309,349
-	-	-	92,312	92,312
-	-	-	-	1,000,503
70,905	-	-	-	270,174
$ 6,712,356	**$ 8,497,542**	**$ 4,646,084**	**$ 3,068,585**	**$ 53,184,532**
$ 134,096	$ 398,015	$ 11,989	$ 42,570	$ 940,383
287,160	-	-	-	757,639
-	-	-	-	123,290
-	-	-	-	10,185
2,958	5,965,867	-	90	5,990,175
84,965	1,028,468	-	-	1,491,689
-	-	-	43,994	205,739
$ 509,179	**$ 7,392,350**	**$ 11,989**	**$ 86,654**	**$ 9,519,100**
$ 413,387	$ 5,423,872	$ -	$ 1,210,678	$ 13,063,205
29,025	-	-	3,261	139,608
$ 442,412	**$ 5,423,872**	**$ -**	**$ 1,213,939**	**$ 13,202,813**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

	General	Public Works
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances (Continued)		
Fund Balances		
Nonspendable for		
Prepaid items	$ 177,521	$ 21,748
Inventories	-	1,000,503
Loan security	-	-
Federal lands	-	-
Restricted for		
Juvenile fines	20,815	-
Law library	27,846	-
Attorney's forfeited property	11,793	-
Recorder's equipment purchases	146,061	-
Land records technology	228,846	-
E-911	1,174,501	-
Sheriff next generation E-911	44,099	-
Park improvements	36,785	-
Aquatic invasive species program	61,776	-
Riparian protection	136,711	-
Shoreland grant	23,718	-
Conceal and carry program	212,102	-
Opioid remediation activities	129,723	-
State local housing aid	91,857	-
Public safety aid	335,391	-
Highway maintenance and construction	-	2,201,094
Land restoration – gravel tax	-	322,606
Ditch maintenance and construction	-	-
Local homeless prevention funds	-	-
Medical assistance eligibility renewal	-	-
Economic development loans	-	-
Sub-surface sewage treatment systems	-	-
Debt service	-	-
Committed for		
Tobacco ordinance	21,362	-
County parks	32,629	-
Alcohol enforcement and education	11,347	-
Solid waste	471,293	-
Projects, technology, and equipment purchases	-	-
Assigned to		
Public works	-	9,180,697
Public health and human services	-	-
Unassigned	6,495,623	-
Total Fund Balances	**$ 9,891,799**	**$ 12,726,648**
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	**$ 11,209,668**	**$ 19,050,297**

Exhibit 3
(Continued)

Public Health and Human Services	Ditch	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
$ 70,905	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 270,174
-	-	-	-	1,000,503
-	-	-	25,000	25,000
-	-	-	261,377	261,377
-	-	-	-	20,815
-	-	-	-	27,846
-	-	-	-	11,793
-	-	-	-	146,061
-	-	-	-	228,846
-	-	-	-	1,174,501
-	-	-	-	44,099
-	-	-	-	36,785
-	-	-	-	61,776
-	-	-	-	136,711
-	-	-	-	23,718
-	-	-	-	212,102
-	-	-	-	129,723
-	-	-	-	91,857
-	-	-	-	335,391
-	-	-	-	2,201,094
-	-	-	-	322,606
-	964,316	-	-	964,316
16,513	-	-	-	16,513
95,034	-	-	-	95,034
-	-	-	286,160	286,160
-	-	-	553,282	553,282
-	-	-	642,173	642,173
-	-	-	-	21,362
-	-	-	-	32,629
-	-	-	-	11,347
-	-	-	-	471,293
-	-	4,634,095	-	4,634,095
-	-	-	-	9,180,697
5,578,313	-	-	-	5,578,313
-	(5,282,996)	-	-	1,212,627
$ 5,760,765	**$ (4,318,680)**	**$ 4,634,095**	**$ 1,767,992**	**$ 30,462,619**
$ 6,712,356	**$ 8,497,542**	**$ 4,646,084**	**$ 3,068,585**	**$ 53,184,532**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 4

Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position—Governmental Activities
December 31, 2023

Fund balance – total governmental funds (Exhibit 3)		**$ 30,462,619**
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Investments in joint ventures are reported in governmental activities and are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		6,335,063
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		81,252,165
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are reported as deferred inflows of resources in the governmental funds.		13,063,205
Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are created as a result of various differences related to other postemployment benefits that are not recognized in the governmental funds.		
Deferred outflows related to other postemployment benefits	$ 42,316	
Deferred inflows related to other postemployment benefits	(288,665)	(246,349)
Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are created as a result of various differences related to pensions that are not recognized in the governmental funds.		
Deferred outflows related to pensions	$ 4,717,746	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	(5,141,588)	(423,842)
Governmental funds do not report a liability for accrued interest on long-term liabilities until due and payable.		(56,295)
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
General obligation bonds payable	$ (4,549,941)	
General obligation special assessment bonds payable	(1,325,618)	
AgBMP loans payable	(1,399,414)	
Leases payable	(94,146)	
Software subscription liability	(36,654)	
Compensated absences	(1,881,357)	
Other postemployment benefits liability	(497,775)	
Net pension liability	(7,883,170)	(17,668,075)
Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 1)		**$ 112,718,491**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	General	Public Works
Revenues		
Taxes	$ 7,791,537	$ 4,801,421
Special assessments	218,390	-
Licenses and permits	51,839	-
Intergovernmental	2,306,542	6,265,832
Settlements	25,795	-
Charges for services	936,042	148,381
Fines and forfeits	9,303	-
Gifts and contributions	2,970	-
Investment earnings	1,351,079	-
Miscellaneous	477,391	220,485
Total Revenues	**$ 13,170,888**	**$ 11,436,119**
Expenditures		
Current		
General government	$ 5,886,931	$ -
Public safety	4,426,176	-
Highways and streets	-	10,619,022
Sanitation	228,521	-
Human services	-	-
Health	-	-
Culture and recreation	484,568	-
Conservation of natural resources	755,709	-
Economic development	185,333	-
Intergovernmental		
Highways and streets	-	384,954
Economic development	82,600	-
Capital outlay		
General government	80,310	-
Public safety	2,066	-
Highways and streets	-	9,810
Culture and recreation	152	-
Debt service		
Principal	9,788	-
Interest	1,318	-
Administrative charges	-	-
Total Expenditures	**$ 12,143,472**	**$ 11,013,786**
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	**$ 1,027,416**	**$ 422,333**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Exhibit 5

Public Health and Human Services	Ditch	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
$ 3,363,368	$ -	$ -	$ 373,343	$ 16,329,669
-	6,364,922	-	272,541	6,855,853
-	-	-	-	51,839
4,602,966	72,158	-	25,309	13,272,807
-	-	-	-	25,795
445,560	-	-	-	1,529,983
-	-	-	-	9,303
-	-	-	38,860	41,830
-	2,263	29,999	11,131	1,394,472
195,174	4,009	-	-	897,059
$ 8,607,068	**$ 6,443,352**	**$ 29,999**	**$ 721,184**	**$ 40,408,610**
$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,886,931
-	-	-	-	4,426,176
-	-	-	-	10,619,022
-	-	-	291,647	520,168
7,349,013	-	-	-	7,349,013
1,232,065	-	-	-	1,232,065
-	-	-	-	484,568
-	5,367,231	-	39,649	6,162,589
-	-	-	3,324	188,657
-	-	-	-	384,954
-	-	-	-	82,600
-	-	360,732	-	441,042
-	-	228,063	-	230,129
-	-	351,028	-	360,838
-	-	-	-	152
-	185,000	8,595	500,761	704,144
-	267,182	1,167	126,789	396,456
-	396	-	648	1,044
$ 8,581,078	**$ 5,819,809**	**$ 949,585**	**$ 962,818**	**$ 39,470,548**
$ 25,990	**$ 623,543**	**$ (919,586)**	**$ (241,634)**	**$ 938,062**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	General	Public Works
Other Financing Sources (Uses)		
Loans issued	$ -	$ -
Leases issued	103,934	-
Issuance of software subscriptions	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	**$ 103,934**	**$ -**
Net Change in Fund Balances	**$ 1,131,350**	**$ 422,333**
Fund Balances – January 1	**8,760,449**	**12,391,549**
Increase (decrease) in inventories	**-**	**(87,234)**
Fund Balances – December 31	**$ 9,891,799**	**$ 12,726,648**

Public Health and Human Services	Ditch	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 284,460	$ 284,460
-	-	-	-	103,934
-	-	45,249	-	45,249
$ -	**$ -**	**$ 45,249**	**$ 284,460**	**$ 433,643**
$ 25,990	**$ 623,543**	**$ (874,337)**	**$ 42,826**	**$ 1,371,705**
5,734,775	**(4,942,223)**	**5,508,432**	**1,725,166**	**29,178,148**
-	-	-	-	**(87,234)**
$ 5,760,765	**$ (4,318,680)**	**$ 4,634,095**	**$ 1,767,992**	**$ 30,462,619**

Exhibit 6

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities—Governmental Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Net change in fund balances – total governmental funds (Exhibit 5)			**$ 1,371,705**
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:			
In the funds, distributions of joint venture equity interest are reported as revenue. In the statement of net position, an asset is reported for the equity interest, and distributions, increases, and decreases in joint venture equity are reported in the statement of activities. The adjustment is the increase or decrease in equity in the joint venture.			2,546,325
In the funds, under the modified accrual basis, receivables not available for expenditure are unavailable. In the statement of activities, those revenues are recognized when earned. The adjustment to revenue between the fund statements and the statement of activities is the increase or decrease in unavailable revenue.			
Unavailable revenue – December 31	$	13,063,205	
Unavailable revenue – January 1		(9,787,289)	3,275,916
Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation and amortization expense.			
Expenditures for general capital assets	$	6,756,884	
Current year depreciation and amortization		(4,425,197)	2,331,687
Issuing long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of debt consumes current financial resources. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued; whereas, those amounts are amortized over the life of the debt in the statement of activities.			
Proceeds of new debt – AgBMP loans issued	$	(284,460)	
Repayment of debt principal		685,761	
Amortization of premiums on bonds		7,849	409,150
Some capital asset additions are acquired through financing. In governmental funds, these arrangements are considered an other financing source, but in the statement of net position, the obligation is reported as a liability. Similarly, repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but reduces the liability in the statement of net position.			
Leases issued	$	(103,934)	
Software subscriptions issued		(45,249)	
Principal payments on leases		9,788	
Principal payments on software subscriptions		8,595	(130,800)

Exhibit 6
(Continued)

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities—Governmental Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.		
Change in inventories	$ (87,234)	
Change in deferred other postemployment benefits outflows	(29,493)	
Change in deferred pension outflows	(1,716,278)	
Change in accrued interest payable	3,265	
Change in compensated absences	(145,797)	
Change in other postemployment benefits liability	215,280	
Change in net pension liability	5,945,069	
Change in deferred other postemployment benefits inflows	(190,941)	
Change in deferred pension inflows	(4,884,985)	(891,114)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 2)		**$ 8,912,869**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Proprietary Fund

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 7

Statement of Net Position
Sibley Estates Enterprise Fund
December 31, 2023

Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and temporary investments	$	253,048
Tenant deposits held in trust		16,974
Restricted deposits		93,754
Petty cash and change funds		300
Accounts receivable		819
Prepaid items		713
Total current assets	**$**	**365,608**
Noncurrent assets		
Capital assets		
Non-depreciable	$	23,500
Depreciable – net of accumulated depreciation		488,035
Total noncurrent assets	**$**	**511,535**
Total Assets	**$**	**877,143**
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	$	8,856
Due to other governments		3,859
Accrued interest payable		923
Security deposits payable		15,432
Total Liabilities	**$**	**29,070**
Net Position		
Investment in capital assets	$	511,535
Restricted for housing and redevelopment		95,296
Unrestricted		241,242
Total Net Position	**$**	**848,073**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 8

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
Sibley Estates Enterprise Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Operating Revenues		
Rents	$	204,060
Intergovernmental – federal		180,289
Miscellaneous		(38)
Total Operating Revenues	**$**	**384,311**
Operating Expenses		
Personal services	$	140,881
Professional services		33,518
Telephone		4,550
Utilities		61,939
Taxes and licenses		3,947
Marketing costs		2,019
Insurance		10,448
Repairs and maintenance		84,681
Independent public accountant costs		9,000
Miscellaneous		26,109
Depreciation		30,596
Total Operating Expenses	**$**	**407,688**
Operating Income (Loss)	**$**	**(23,377)**
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Interest income	$	8,200
Interest expense		(178)
Insurance proceeds		26,314
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	**$**	**34,336**
Change in Net Position	**$**	**10,959**
Net Position – January 1		**837,114**
Net Position – December 31	**$**	**848,073**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 9

Statement of Cash Flows
Sibley Estates Enterprise Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	$	213,322
Receipts from government agencies		180,289
Payments to suppliers and vendors		(241,705)
Other cash receipts		25,781
Payments to and on behalf of employees		(140,881)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	**$**	**36,806**
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Acquisition of capital assets	**$**	**(92,920)**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Interest paid	$	(68)
Interest received on investments		8,200
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	**$**	**8,132**
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	**$**	**(47,982)**
Cash and Cash Equivalents, January 1		**412,058**
Cash and Cash Equivalents, December 31	**$**	**364,076**
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents to the Statement of Net Position – Exhibit 7		
Cash and temporary investments	$	253,048
Tenant deposits held in trust		16,974
Restricted deposits		93,754
Petty cash and change funds		300
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents – December 31	**$**	**364,076**
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		
Operating income (loss)	**$**	**(23,377)**
Other income related to operations	**$**	**26,314**
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		
Depreciation expense	$	30,596
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable		6,641
(Increase) decrease in prepaid items		1
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable		(6,524)
Increase (decrease) in due to other governments		1,606
Increase (decrease) in accrued liabilities		(577)
Increase (decrease) in security deposits payable		2,126
Total adjustments	**$**	**33,869**
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	**$**	**36,806**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Fiduciary Funds

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 10

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
December 31, 2023

	Social Welfare Private-Purpose Trust Fund	Custodial Funds
Assets		
Cash and pooled investments	$ 41,149	$ 747,388
Taxes receivable for other governments	-	211,599
Special assessments receivable for other governments	-	61,026
Accounts receivable	-	7,671
Total Assets	**$ 41,149**	**$ 1,027,684**
Liabilities		
Due to others	$ -	$ 6,390
Due to other governments	-	418,223
Total Liabilities	**$ -**	**$ 424,613**
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Prepaid taxes	**$ -**	**$ 76,481**
Net Position		
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	**$ 41,149**	**$ 526,590**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit 11

Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Social Welfare Private-Purpose Trust Fund	Custodial Funds
Additions		
Contributions from individuals	$ 425,221	$ 782,963
Interest earnings	17	3,321
Property tax collections for other governments	-	17,795,739
Fees collected for the state	-	3,407,096
Payments from the state	-	95,419
Refunds collected for other entities	-	1,009
Payments from other entities	-	149,081
Miscellaneous	-	13,471
Total Additions	**$ 425,238**	**$ 22,248,099**
Deductions		
Beneficiary payments to individuals	$ 425,583	$ 19,161
Payments of property tax to other governments	-	17,895,526
Payments to the state	-	3,597,607
Administrative expense	-	46,962
Payments to other entities	-	731,287
Total Deductions	**$ 425,583**	**$ 22,290,543**
Change in Net Position	**$ (345)**	**$ (42,444)**
Net Position – January 1	**41,494**	**569,034**
Net Position – December 31	**$ 41,149**	**$ 526,590**

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The County's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the County are discussed below.

Financial Reporting Entity

Sibley County was established March 5, 1853, and is an organized county having the powers, duties, and privileges granted counties by Minn. Stat. ch. 373. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, these financial statements present Sibley County (primary government). The County is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners elected from the five districts within the County. The Board is organized with a chair and vice chair elected at the annual organizational meeting in January of each year.

Joint Ventures and Jointly-Governed Organizations

The County participates in joint ventures and jointly-governed organizations as described in Note 5 – Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items.

Basic Financial Statements

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide financial statements (the statement of net position and the statement of activities) display information about the County. These statements include the financial activities of the overall County government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities, which are normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges to external parties for support.

In the government-wide statement of net position, both the governmental activities and business-type activities columns: (a) are presented on a consolidated basis by column; and (b) are reported on a full accrual, economic resources basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables, long-term debt and obligations, as well as any related deferred inflows and outflows of resources. The County's net position is reported in three parts: (1) net investment in capital assets, (2) restricted net position, and (3) unrestricted net position. The County first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of each function of the County's governmental activities and business-type activities are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function or activity. Program revenues include: (1) fees, fines, and charges paid by the recipients of goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity; and (2) grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or activity.

Revenues not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues. The County does not allocate indirect expenses to functions within the financial statements.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category—governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary—are presented. The emphasis of governmental and proprietary fund financial statements is on major individual governmental and enterprise funds, with each displayed as a separate column in the fund financial statements. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from nonexchange transactions or incidental activities.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those accounted for in another fund.

The Public Works Special Revenue Fund accounts for restricted revenues from the federal and state government, as well as assigned property tax revenues used for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other projects affecting County roadways.

The Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund accounts for restricted revenue resources from the federal, state, and other oversight agencies, as well as assigned property tax revenues used for economic assistance and community social services programs.

The Ditch Special Revenue Fund accounts for special assessments revenue levied against benefitted property to finance the cost of constructing and maintaining an agricultural drainage ditch system.

The Capital Projects Fund accounts for financial resources restricted, committed, or assigned to be used for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

The County reports the following major enterprise fund:

The Sibley Estates Fund is used to account for the development and management of housing units for low- to moderate-income residents and the administration of housing rental assistance programs for low-income residents.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

The Debt Service Fund accounts for financial resources restricted, committed, or assigned to be used for principal and interest payments on County debt.

The Permanent Fund is used to report resources legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support County programs.

The Social Welfare Private-Purpose Trust Fund is used to account for resources held in trust on behalf of individuals receiving social welfare assistance.

Custodial funds are safekeeping in nature. These funds account for monies the County holds for others in a fiduciary capacity.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The government-wide, proprietary fund, and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Sibley County considers all revenues as available if collected within 60 days after the end of the current period. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Property and other taxes, licenses, and interest are all considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Issuances of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases and software subscriptions are reported as other financing sources. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County’s policy to use restricted resources first and then unrestricted resources as needed.

Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

Deposits and Investments

The cash balances of substantially all funds are pooled and invested by the County Auditor-Treasurer for the purpose of increasing earnings through investment activities. Pooled and fund investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2023. A market approach is used to value all investments other than external investment pools, which are measured at the net asset value. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 385.07, investment earnings on cash and pooled investments are credited to the General Fund.

The County’s cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and temporary and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Cash and cash equivalents include restricted assets.

Sibley County invests in an external investment pool, the Minnesota Association of Governments Investing for Counties (MAGIC) Fund, which is created under a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59. The investment in the pool is measured at the net asset value per share provided by the pool.

Other funds received investment earnings based on other state statutes, grant agreements, contracts, and bond covenants. Pooled investment earnings for 2023 were $1,394,472.

Receivables and Payables

Activity between funds representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (the noncurrent portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balance outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities is reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

Accounts receivable is shown net of an allowance for uncollectible balances.

Property taxes are levied as of January 1 on property values assessed as of the same date by the County Assessor. The tax levy notice is mailed in March with the first half payment due May 15 and the second half payment due October 15. Unpaid taxes at December 31 become liens on the respective property and are classified in the financial statements as delinquent taxes receivable.

Special assessments receivable consist of delinquent special assessments payable in the years 2018 through 2023 and noncurrent special assessments payable in 2023 and after. Unpaid special assessments at December 31 are classified in the financial statements as delinquent special assessments receivable.

Inventories and Prepaid Items

The County uses the weighted average valuation method for all inventory purchased. Inventories in governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed. Inventories at the government-wide level are reported as expenses when consumed.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Capital Assets

The County's capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (for example, roads, bridges, and similar items), and right-to-use assets acquired under leasing and software subscription arrangements, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements and in the proprietary fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the County as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than $5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value (entry price) on the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the life of the asset are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives, while right-to-use assets are amortized over the shorter of the underlying asset's estimated useful life or the lease term:

Estimated Useful Lives of Capital Assets

Assets	Years
Buildings and building improvements	50-75
Infrastructure	15-50
Machinery, furniture, and equipment	3-15
Right-to-use machinery, furniture, and equipment and software subscriptions	5
Improvements other than buildings	10-35

Compensated Absences

The liability for compensated absences reported in the financial statements consists of unpaid, accumulated Paid Time Off (PTO) leave balances. The liability is calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts for all employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments and other employees who are expected to be eligible in the future to receive such payments upon termination are included. Compensated absences are accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee retirements and resignations. The current portion is calculated as 27 percent of the total liability. The compensated absences liability is liquidated by funds that have personal services.

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of the debt issued is reported as an other financing source. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources, while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. Acquisitions under leases and software subscriptions are reported as an other financing source at the present value of the future minimum payments as of the inception date.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenditure/expense) until that time. The County reports deferred outflows of resources only under the full accrual basis of accounting associated with pension plans and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) and, accordingly, are reported only in the statement of net position.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Prepaid property taxes represent the County's share of tax collections collected prior to year-end that were not due until the following year. Since the property taxes were levied for use in a future year, the revenue is deferred and recognized in the period for which the amount is levied. These amounts arise under both the modified accrual and the full accrual basis of accounting and are reported in both the governmental fund balance sheet and the statement of net position. The governmental funds report unavailable revenue from delinquent taxes and special assessments receivable, grants receivable, and other long-term receivables. Unavailable revenue arises only under the modified accrual basis of accounting and, accordingly, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. Unavailable revenue is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. The County also reports deferred inflows of resources associated with pension plans and OPEB. These inflows arise only under the full accrual basis of accounting and, accordingly, are reported only in the statement of net position.

Pension Plan

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and additions to/deductions from PERA's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERA, except that PERA's fiscal year-end is June 30. For this purpose, plan contributions are recognized as of employer payroll paid dates, and benefit payments and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Plan investments are reported at fair value. The net pension liability is liquidated through funds that have personal services.

Unearned Revenue

Governmental funds and government-wide financial statements report unearned revenue in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned.

Classification of Net Position

Net position in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements is classified in the following categories:

Net investment in capital assets – the amount of net position representing capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization, and reduced by outstanding debt attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of the assets.

Restricted net position – the amount of net position for which external restrictions have been imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position – the amount of net position that is not included in the net investment in capital assets or restricted components.

Classification of Fund Balances

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which Sibley County is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable – amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted – amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of the County Board. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts.

Assigned – amounts the County intends to use for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the County Board or the County Auditor-Treasurer who has been designated that authority by Board resolution.

Unassigned – the residual classification for the General Fund includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other fund balance classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted or committed.

Sibley County applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Sibley County has adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund, Public Works Special Revenue Fund, and Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund. The policy requires that the combined unrestricted fund balance of the General Fund, Public Works Special Revenue Fund, and Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund maintain a minimum fund balance at year-end of 35 percent of the subsequent year's combined expenditure budget. The County does not have a minimum fund balance policy for its other funds.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources; and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Change in Accounting Principle

During the year ended December 31, 2023, Sibley County adopted new accounting guidance by implementing the provisions of GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangement*s.

Note 2 – Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Deficit Fund Balance – Ditch Special Revenue Fund

The Ditch Special Revenue Fund has a deficit fund balance of $4,318,680. The deficit will be eliminated with future special assessment levies against benefitted properties. The following is a summary of the individual ditch systems:

Individual Ditch System Fund Balance

29 ditches with positive fund balances	$	964,316
47 ditches with deficit fund balances		(5,282,996)
Total Fund Balance	$	(4,318,680)

Note 3 – Detailed Notes

Assets

Deposits and Investments

Reconciliation of the County's total deposits, petty cash, change funds, and investments to the basic financial statements follows:

Reconciliation of the County's Total Cash and Investments to the Basic Financial Statements as of December 31, 2023

Governmental activities		
Cash and pooled investments	$	29,295,922
Petty cash and change funds		6,125
Investments		302,000
Business-type activities		
Cash and temporary investments		253,048
Tenant deposits held in trust		16,974
Restricted deposits		93,754
Petty cash and change funds		300
Fiduciary funds		
Private-purpose trust funds		
Cash and pooled investments		41,149
Custodial funds		
Cash and pooled investments		747,388
Total Cash and Investments	$	30,756,660
Deposits	$	2,231,908
Petty cash and change funds		6,425
Investments		28,518,327
Total	$	30,756,660

Deposits

The County is authorized by Minn. Stat. § 118A.02 to designate depositories for public funds. The County is required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03 to protect deposits with insurance, surety bond, or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged shall be at least ten percent more than the amount on deposit at the close of the financial institution's banking day, not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes treasury bills, notes and bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; general obligations rated "A" or better and revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank; and certificates of deposit. Minnesota statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned to it. The County's policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits is to obtain collateral or bond to cover any uninsured portion of the County's deposits and to comply with state law. As of December 31, 2023, Sibley County's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

Investments

The County may invest in the following types of investments as authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05:

(1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;

(2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments;

(3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;

(4) time deposits fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the National Credit Union Administration, or bankers' acceptances of United States banks;

(5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and

(6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

Fair Value Measurement

The County measures and records its investments using fair value measurement guidelines established by generally accepted accounting principles. These guidelines recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy, as follows:

- *Level 1:* Quoted prices for identical investments in active markets;
- *Level 2:* Observable inputs other than quoted market prices; and
- *Level 3:* Unobservable inputs.

At December 31, 2023, the County had the following recurring fair value measurements.

Recurring Fair Value Measurements as of December 31, 2023

		Fair Value Measurements Using		
	December 31, 2023	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Investments by fair value level				
Debt securities				
U.S. agencies	$ 1,902,105	$ -	$ 1,902,105	$ -
Negotiable certificates of deposit	14,839,849	-	14,839,849	-
Total Investments Included in the Fair Value Hierarchy	$ 16,741,954	$ -	$ 16,741,954	$ -
Investments measured at the net asset value (NAV)				
MAGIC Portfolio	$ 11,776,373			

Debt securities classified in Level 2 are valued using a market approach quoted in active markets for those securities. Debt securities classified in Level 2 are valued using the following approaches:

- U.S. Agencies: a market approach by utilizing quoted prices for identical securities in markets that are not active;
- Negotiable Certificates of Deposit: a market approach using quoted prices for similar securities in markets that are not active.

MAGIC is a local government investment pool which is quoted at NAV. The County invests in this pool for the purpose of the joint investment with other counties to enhance the investment earnings accruing to each member. The MAGIC fund currently consists of the MAGIC Portfolio.

MAGIC Portfolio is valued using amortized cost. Shares of the MAGIC Portfolio are available to be redeemed upon proper notice without restrictions under normal operating conditions. There are no limits to the number of redemptions that can be made as long as the County has a sufficient number of shares to meet the redemption request. The MAGIC Fund’s Board of Trustees can suspend the right of withdrawal or postpone the date of payment if the Trustees determine that there is an emergency that makes the sale of a Portfolio’s securities or determination of its NAV not reasonably practical.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. It is the County's policy to minimize its exposure to interest rate risk by (1) structuring the investment portfolio so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations, thereby, avoiding the need to sell securities in the open market; and (2) investing operating funds primarily in shorter-term securities, liquid asset funds, money market mutual funds, or similar investment pools and limiting the average maturity in accordance with the County's cash requirements. At December 31, 2023, the County had the following investments with specified maturity dates:

Cash and Investments and Information Relating to Potential Investment Risk as of December 31, 2023

	Carrying (Fair) Value	Maturity Dates 0-1 Year	Maturity Dates Over 1 Year
U.S. government securities*	$ 1,902,105	$ 248,685	$ 1,653,420
Negotiable certificates of deposit	14,839,849	5,787,299	9,052,550
MAGIC Portfolio	11,776,373	11,776,373	-
Total	$ 28,518,327	$ 17,812,357	$ 10,705,970

*These notes have step provisions which could result in the notes being called prior to maturity.

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. While the County does not have a policy on credit risk, it invests only in securities that meet the ratings requirements set by state statute. Investments in negotiable certificates of deposit and the MAGIC Portfolio are unrated. The County's other exposure to credit risk as of December 31, 2023, is as follows:

Credit Risk of Investments

Moody's Rating	Fair Value
Aaa	$ 1,902,105

Custodial Credit Risk

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. The County's investment policy is to minimize investment custodial credit risk by permitting brokers that obtained investments for the County to hold them only to the extent there is Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) coverage and excess SIPC coverage available. Securities purchased that exceed available SIPC coverage shall be transferred to the County's custodian. As of December 31, 2023, the County's investments were not subject to custodial credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the County's investment in a single issuer. It is the County's policy to diversify its investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized. At December 31, 2023, all County investments with a single issuer represented less than five percent of the County's total investment portfolio.

Receivables

Receivables as of December 31, 2023, for the County are as follows:

Governmental Activities' Receivables as of December 31, 2023

	Receivable	Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	Net Receivables	Amounts Not Scheduled for Collection During the Subsequent Year
Governmental Activities				
Taxes – delinquent	$ 128,794	$ -	$ 128,794	$ -
Special assessments – delinquent	24,056	-	24,056	-
Special assessments – noncurrent	7,353,313	-	7,353,313	5,124,780
Accounts receivable	737,980	(14,363)	723,617	-
Accrued interest receivable	688,192	-	688,192	-
Due from other governments	7,309,349	-	7,309,349	-
Loans receivable	92,312	-	92,312	49,057
Total Governmental Activities	$ 16,333,996	$ (14,363)	$ 16,319,633	$ 5,173,837

Loans receivable represent the unpaid principal portions of loans made by the County through its Revolving Loan Fund.

Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2023, was as follows:

Governmental Activities

Changes in Capital Assets for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Beginning Balance	Increase	Decrease	Ending Balance
Capital assets not depreciated				
Land	$ 1,812,677	$ 25,854	$ -	$ 1,838,531
Construction in progress	3,739,375	2,172,489	1,480,866	4,430,998
Total capital assets not depreciated	$ 5,552,052	$ 2,198,343	$ 1,480,866	$ 6,269,529
Capital assets depreciated and amortized				
Infrastructure	$ 95,995,369	$ 5,046,090	$ -	$ 101,041,459
Buildings and building improvements	14,681,282	6,950	-	14,688,232
Machinery, furniture, and equipment	10,125,634	716,806	70,983	10,771,457
Improvements other than buildings	323,408	123,882	-	447,290
Leased equipment	-	103,934	-	103,934
Software subscriptions	-	41,745	-	41,745
Total capital assets depreciated and amortized	$ 121,125,693	$ 6,039,407	$ 70,983	$ 127,094,117
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization for				
Infrastructure	$ 36,299,869	$ 3,222,081	$ -	$ 39,521,950
Buildings and building improvements	5,707,192	391,282	-	6,098,474
Machinery, furniture, and equipment	5,711,347	769,501	70,983	6,409,865
Improvements other than buildings	38,859	21,854	-	60,713
Leased equipment	-	12,130	-	12,130
Software subscriptions	-	8,349	-	8,349
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	$ 47,757,267	$ 4,425,197	$ 70,983	$ 52,111,481
Total capital assets depreciated and amortized, net	$ 73,368,426	$ 1,614,210	$ -	$ 74,982,636
Total Capital Assets, Net	$ 78,920,478	$ 3,812,553	$ 1,480,866	$ 81,252,165

Business-Type Activities

Changes in Capital Assets for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Beginning Balance	Increase	Decrease	Ending Balance
Capital assets not depreciated				
Land	$ 23,500	$ -	$ -	$ 23,500
Capital assets depreciated				
Improvements other than buildings	$ 58,536	$ 56,630	$ -	$ 115,166
Buildings and improvements	1,736,535	36,290	-	1,772,825
Machinery, furniture, and equipment	161,707	-	-	161,707
Total capital assets depreciated	$ 1,956,778	$ 92,920	$ -	$ 2,049,698
Less: accumulated depreciation	1,531,067	30,596	-	1,561,663
Total capital assets depreciated, net	$ 425,711	$ 62,324	$ -	$ 488,035
Total Capital Assets, Net	$ 449,211	$ 62,324	$ -	$ 511,535

Depreciation and amortization expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Depreciation and Amortization Expense Charged to Functions/Programs

Governmental Activities	
General government	$ 422,624
Public safety	255,182
Highways and streets, including depreciation of infrastructure assets	3,720,796
Human services	6,047
Culture and recreation	10,285
Conservation of natural resources	10,263
Total Depreciation and Amortization Expense – Governmental Activities	$ 4,425,197
Business-Type Activities	
Housing and redevelopment	$ 30,596

Interfund Receivables and Payables

The composition of interfund balances as of December 31, 2023, is as follows:

Due To/From Other Funds

Due To/From Other Funds as of December 31, 2023

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount
General Fund	Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund	$ 2,958
	Ditch Special Revenue Fund	2,965,867
	Sub-Surface Sewage Treatment System Loans Special Revenue Fund	90
Total due to General Fund		$ 2,968,915
Public Works Special Revenue Fund	General Fund	$ 21,212
Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund	General Fund	$ 24
	Public Works Special Revenue Fund	24
Total due to Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund		$ 48
Capital Projects Fund	Ditch Special Revenue Fund	$ 3,000,000
Total Due To/From Other Funds		$ 5,990,175

The interfund balances are for services performed and a short-term loan between the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and the Ditch Special Revenue Fund.

Liabilities

Security Deposits Payable

Security deposits are collected from the tenants of Sibley Estates of Sibley County. Deposits are invested in the general investment account. The related liability consists of actual deposits and does not include any interest earned by tenants on deposits. Refunds are made when a tenant leaves the project.

Long-Term Debt

Long-Term Debt Payable as of December 31, 2023

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2023
General obligation bonds					
2017 G.O. Capital Improvement Bonds	2038	$15,000-$360,000	2.00-3.25	$ 5,085,000	$ 4,470,000
General obligation special assessment bonds					
2017 G.O. Bonds County Ditch 29	2038	$35,000-$70,000	2.00-3.25	$ 1,090,000	$ 870,000
2017 G.O. Bonds County Ditch 39	2037	$5,000-$10,000	2.00-3.25	130,000	105,000
2017 G.O. Bonds Joint Ditch 32 SM	2032	$5,000-$10,000	2.00-3.00	85,000	60,000
2017 G.O. Bonds Joint Ditch 18 SM Repair	2038	$10,000-$20,000	2.00-3.25	330,000	260,000
Total General Obligation Special Assessment Bonds				$ 1,635,000	$ 1,295,000
Minnesota Department of Agriculture loans					
Ag Best Management Loan Program (AgBMP)	2035	$6,414-$97,630	-	$ 2,020,028	$ 1,399,414

Debt Service Requirements

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2023, were as follows:

Debt Service Requirements as of December 31, 2023

Year Ending December 31	General Obligation Bonds Principal	General Obligation Bonds Interest	General Obligation Special Assessment Bonds Principal	General Obligation Special Assessment Bonds Interest
2024	$ 250,000	$ 121,550	$ 75,000	$ 35,100
2025	255,000	116,500	75,000	33,600
2026	260,000	111,025	75,000	32,006
2027	265,000	104,788	75,000	30,225
2028	270,000	98,100	80,000	28,288
2029-2033	1,470,000	373,113	445,000	106,319
2034-2038	1,700,000	137,612	470,000	37,287
Total	$ 4,470,000	$ 1,062,688	$ 1,295,000	$ 302,825

Debt Service Requirements as of December 31, 2023

Year Ending December 31	AgBMP Loans Principal	Interest
2024	$ 181,475	$ -
2025	187,080	-
2026	184,056	-
2027	172,935	-
2028	152,764	-
2029-2033	490,013	-
2034-2035	31,091	-
Total	$ 1,399,414	$ -

Leases

The County has entered into lease agreements as lessee for financing copier leases for various departments. The lease terms are five years and have been recorded at the present value of their future minimum lease payments as of the inception date. Lease payments are paid from the General Fund.

Future Minimum Lease Obligations and Present Value of Minimum Lease Payments as of December 31, 2023

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest
2024	$ 19,967	$ 2,245
2025	20,500	1,711
2026	21,048	1,164
2027	21,610	601
2028	11,021	85
Total Governmental Activities Lease Payments	$ 94,146	$ 5,806

Software Subscriptions

The County has entered into various agreements to finance software subscriptions. The agreement terms are five years and have been recorded at the present value of their future minimum payments as of the inception date. Software subscription payments are paid from the Capital Projects Fund.

Future Minimum Software Subscription Obligations and Present Value of Minimum Software Subscription Payments as of December 31, 2023

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest
2024	$ 8,817	$ 945
2025	9,044	718
2026	9,277	485
2027	9,516	245
Total Governmental Activities Software Subscription Payments	$ 36,654	$ 2,393

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2023, was as follows:

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities long-term liabilities					
Bonds payable					
General obligation bonds	$ 4,715,000	$ -	$ 245,000	$ 4,470,000	$ 250,000
Add: Unamortized premium	85,615	-	5,674	79,941	-
General obligation special assessment bonds	1,480,000	-	185,000	1,295,000	75,000
Add: Unamortized premium	32,793	-	2,175	30,618	-
Total bonds payable	$ 6,313,408	$ -	$ 437,849	$ 5,875,559	$ 325,000
MnPCA loans	19,213	-	19,213	-	-
AgBMP loans	1,351,502	284,460	236,548	1,399,414	181,475
Compensated absences	1,735,560	1,250,064	1,104,267	1,881,357	507,966
Leases	-	103,934	9,788	94,146	19,967
Software subscription liability	-	45,249	8,595	36,654	8,817
Total Governmental Activities Long-Term Liabilities	$ 9,419,683	$ 1,683,707	$ 1,816,260	$ 9,287,130	$ 1,043,225

Deferred Inflows of Resources

Deferred inflows of resources as of December 31, 2023, for the County's governmental funds are as follows:

Governmental Funds Deferred Inflows of Resources as of December 31, 2023

	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Unavailable revenue	
Delinquent property taxes	$ 128,794
Special assessments receivable, delinquent and noncurrent	6,635,517
Highway allotments that do not provide current financial resources	5,829,179
Charges for services	410,962
Accrued interest	58,753
Total Governmental Funds	$ 13,063,205

Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

Plan Description

Sibley County administers an OPEB plan, a single-employer defined benefit health care plan, to eligible retirees and their dependents.

The plan offers County medical insurance coverage for eligible retired employees and their spouses. Retirees pay 100 percent of the blended active/retiree premium rate, in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 471.61, subd. 2b. By participating, the retirees, whose cost is statistically higher than the group average, are receiving an implicit rate "subsidy." For 2023, the benefit payments for the implicit rate subsidy were determined by an actuarial study to be $9,354.

As of the January 1, 2023, actuarial valuation, the following participants were covered by the benefit terms:

Employees Covered by the OPEB Benefit Terms
As of the January 1, 2023, Actuarial Valuation

Retirees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	1
Active employee plan participants	169
Total	170

No assets have been accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph four of GASB Statement 75. The OPEB plan does not issue a stand-alone financial report.

Total OPEB Liability

The County's total OPEB liability of $497,775 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023, which was measured as of January 1, 2023. The OPEB liability is liquidated through the General Fund and other governmental funds that have personal services.

The total OPEB liability in the fiscal year-end December 31, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

OPEB Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	Graded by service years and contract group ranging from 10.25 percent for one year of service (11.75 percent for public safety) to 3.00 percent for 27 or more years of service (3.00 percent for public safety)
Health care cost trend	6.50 percent, grading to 5.00 percent over six years and then 4.00 percent over the next 48 years

The current year discount rate is 4.00 percent, which is no change from the prior year rate. For the current valuation, the discount rate is based on the estimated yield of 20-year AA-rated municipal bonds.

Mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Headcount Weighted Mortality tables (General, Safety) with MP-2021 Generational Improvement Scale.

Economic assumptions are based on input from a variety of published sources of historical and projected future financial data.

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance at December 31, 2022	$ 713,055
Changes for the year	
Service cost	$ 49,709
Interest	15,008
Assumption changes	(68,792)
Differences between expected and actual experience	(186,354)
Benefit payments	(24,851)
Net change	$ (215,280)
Balance at December 31, 2023	$ 497,775

OPEB Liability Sensitivity

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, calculated using the discount rate previously disclosed, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current discount rate:

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate as of December 31, 2023

	Discount Rate	Total OPEB Liability
1% Decrease	3.00%	$ 539,913
Current	4.00%	497,775
1% Increase	5.00%	458,558

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, calculated using the health care cost trend previously disclosed, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rate:

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Health Care Trend Rates as of December 31, 2023

	Health Care Trend Rate	Total OPEB Liability
1% Decrease	5.50% Decreasing to 4.00%	$ 439,712
Current	6.50% Decreasing to 5.00%	497,775
1% Increase	7.50% Decreasing to 6.00%	566,382

OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the County recognized OPEB expense of $14,508. The County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB as of December 31, 2023

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Changes in actuarial assumptions	$ 14,917	$ 115,048
Difference between actual and expected results	18,045	173,617
Contributions made subsequent to the measurement date	9,354	-
Total	$ 42,316	$ 288,665

The $9,354 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the OPEB liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Schedule of Amortization of Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB As of December 31, 2023

Year Ended December 31	OPEB Expense Amount
2024	$ (50,209)
2025	(50,204)
2026	(38,714)
2027	(43,680)
2028	(36,450)
2029	(36,446)

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions

The following changes in actuarial assumptions occurred in 2023:

- The health care trend rates were changed to better anticipate short-term and long-term medical increases.
- The mortality tables were updated from the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Headcount-Weighted Mortality tables (General, Safety) with MP-2020 Generational Improvement Scale to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Headcount-Weighted Mortality tables (General, Safety) with MP-2021 Generational Improvement Scale.
- The retirement, withdrawal, and salary increase rates for public safety employees were updated to reflect the latest experience study.
- The inflation rate was changed from 2.00 percent to 2.50 percent.

- The discount rate was changed from 2.00 percent to 4.00 percent.

Pension Plans

Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Plan Description

All full-time and certain part-time employees of Sibley County are covered by defined benefit pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA administers the General Employees Retirement Plan (the General Employees Plan), the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan (the Police and Fire Plan), and the Public Employees Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Plan (the Correctional Plan), which are cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans. These plans are established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. chs. 353 and 356. PERA's defined benefit pension plans are tax qualified plans under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The General Employees Plan (accounted for in the General Employees Fund) has multiple benefit structures with members belonging to the Coordinated Plan, the Basic Plan, or the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security, while the Basic Plan and Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund members are not covered. The Basic Plan was closed to new members in 1967. The Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund was closed to new members in 1978 and merged into the General Employees Plan in 2015. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan, for which benefits vest after three years of credited service. No Sibley County employees belong to either the Basic Plan or the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund.

Police officers, firefighters, and peace officers who qualify for membership by statute are covered by the Police and Fire Plan (accounted for in the Police and Fire Fund). For members first hired after June 30, 2010, benefits vest on a prorated basis starting with 50 percent after five years and increasing ten percent for each year of service until fully vested after ten years.

Local government employees of a county-administered facility who are responsible for the direct security, custody, and control of the correctional facility and its inmates are covered by the Correctional Plan (accounted for in the Correctional Fund). For members hired after June 30, 2010, benefits vest on a prorated basis starting with 50 percent after five years and increasing ten percent for each year of service until fully vested after ten years.

Benefits Provided

PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefit provisions are established by state statute and can be modified only by the state legislature. Benefit increases are provided to benefit recipients each January.

General Employees Plan benefit recipients will receive a post-retirement increase equal to 50 percent of the cost-of-living adjustment announced by the Social Security Administration, with a minimum increase of at least 1.00 percent and a maximum of 1.50 percent. Recipients that have been receiving the annuity or benefit for at least a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive the full increase. Recipients receiving the annuity or benefit for at least one month but less than a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive a reduced prorated increase.

Police and Fire Plan benefit recipients will receive a 1.00 percent post-retirement increase. Recipients that have been receiving the annuity or benefit for at least 36 months as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive the full increase. Recipients receiving the annuity or benefit for at least 25 months but less than 36 months as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive a reduced prorated increase.

Correctional Plan benefit recipients will receive a post-retirement increase equal to 100 percent of the cost-of-living adjustment announced by the Social Security Administration, with a minimum increase of at least 1.00 percent and a maximum of 2.50 percent. If the Correctional Plan's funding status declines to 85 percent or below for two consecutive years, or 80 percent for one year, the maximum will be lowered from 2.50 percent to 1.50 percent. If on January 1, after the year of the 1.50 percent increase, the funding level increases above the applicable 85 percent or 80 percent funding status, the increase returns to 2.50 percent. Recipients that have been receiving the annuity or benefit for at least a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive the full increase. Recipients receiving the annuity or benefit for at least one month but less than a full year as of the June 30 before the effective date of the increase will receive a reduced prorated increase.

The benefit provisions stated in the following paragraph of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits, but are not yet receiving them, are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

Benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any 60 consecutive months of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service. In the General Employees Plan, two methods are used to compute benefits for Coordinated Plan members. Members hired prior to July 1, 1989, receive the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Coordinated Plan member is 1.20 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 1.70 percent of average salary for each remaining year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 1.70 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service. Only Method 2 is used for members hired after June 30, 1989. For Police and Fire Plan members, the annuity accrual rate is 3.00 percent of average salary for each year of service. For Correctional Plan members, the annuity accrual rate is 1.90 percent of average salary for each year of service.

For General Employees Plan members hired prior to July 1, 1989, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90, and normal retirement age is 65. For members hired on or after July 1, 1989, normal retirement age is the age for unreduced Social Security benefits capped at 66. For Police and Fire Plan and Correctional Plan members, normal retirement age is 55, and for members who were hired prior to July 1, 1989, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90. Disability benefits are available for vested members and are based on years of service and average high-five salary.

Contributions

Pension benefits are funded from member and employer contributions and income from the investment of fund assets. Rates for employer and employee contributions are set by Minn. Stat. ch. 353. These statutes are established and amended by the state legislature. Rates did not change from 2022.

Member and Employer Required Contribution Rates

	Member Required Contribution	Employer Required Contribution
General Employees Plan – Coordinated Plan members	6.50%	7.50%
Police and Fire Plan	11.80%	17.70%
Correctional Plan	5.83%	8.75%

Employer Contributions for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

General Employees Plan	$	676,597
Police and Fire Plan		248,264
Correctional Plan		74,191

The contributions are equal to the statutorily required contributions as set by state statute.

Pension Costs

General Employees Plan

At December 31, 2023, the County reported a liability of $6,072,790 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the County's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. At June 30, 2023, the County's proportion was 0.1086 percent. It was 0.1087 percent measured as of June 30, 2022. The County recognized pension expense of $827,310 for its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's pension expense.

Legislation requires the State of Minnesota to contribute $16 million to the General Employees Plan annually until September 15, 2031. The County recognized an additional $752 as grant revenue and pension expense for its proportionate share of the State of Minnesota's pension expense related to the special funding situation.

General Employees Plan
Employer's Share of the Net Pension Liability and the State's Related Liability
As of December 31, 2023

The County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$	6,072,790
State of Minnesota's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the County		167,415
Total	$	6,240,205

The County reported its proportionate share of the General Employees Plan's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

General Employees Plan
Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	$ 199,477	$ 42,605
Changes in actuarial assumptions	1,000,519	1,664,500
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	-	271,675
Changes in proportion	95,927	46,510
Contributions paid to PERA subsequent to the measurement date	344,393	-
Total	$ 1,640,316	$ 2,025,290

The $344,393 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

General Employees Plan
Schedule of Amortization of
Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

Year Ended December 31	Pension Expense Amount
2024	$ 213,695
2025	(951,844)
2026	140,522
2027	(131,740)

Police and Fire Plan

At December 31, 2023, the County reported a liability of $1,652,615 for its proportionate share of the Police and Fire Plan's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the County's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. At June 30, 2023, the County's proportion was 0.0957 percent. It was 0.0967 percent measured as of June 30, 2022. The County recognized pension expense of $492,834 for its proportionate share of the Police and Fire Plan's pension expense.

The State of Minnesota also contributed $18 million to the Police and Fire Plan in the plan fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The contribution consisted of $9 million in direct state aid that meets the definition of a special funding situation and $9 million in supplemental state aid that does not meet the definition of a special funding situation.

Legislation requires the State of Minnesota to pay direct state aid of $9 million on October 1 each year until full funding is reached, or July 1, 2048, whichever is earlier. The County recognized an additional ($4,011) as grant revenue and pension expense for its proportionate share of the State of Minnesota's pension expense related to the special funding situation.

Police and Fire Plan
Employer's Share of the Net Pension Liability and the State's Related Liability
As of December 31, 2023

The County's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$	1,652,615
State of Minnesota's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with the County		66,599
Total	$	1,719,214

Legislation also requires the State of Minnesota to contribute $9 million to the Police and Fire Plan each year, until the plan is 90 percent funded, or until the State Patrol Plan is 90 percent funded, whichever occurs later. The County also recognized $8,613 as revenue, which results in a reduction of the net pension liability, for its proportionate share of the State of Minnesota's on-behalf contribution to the Police and Fire Plan.

The County reported its proportionate share of the Police and Fire Plan's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Police and Fire Plan
Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	$ 447,589	$ -
Changes in actuarial assumptions	1,854,717	2,321,647
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	9,395	-
Changes in proportion	104,937	41,947
Contributions paid to PERA subsequent to the measurement date	136,568	-
Total	$ 2,553,206	$ 2,363,594

The $136,568 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Police and Fire Plan
Schedule of Amortization of
Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

Year Ended December 31	Pension Expense Amount
2024	$ 106,324
2025	60,341
2026	401,999
2027	(98,343)
2028	(417,277)

Correctional Plan

At December 31, 2023, the County reported a liability of $157,765 for its proportionate share of the Correctional Plan's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the County's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. At June 30, 2023, the County's proportion was 0.3490 percent. It was 0.3042 percent measured as of June 30, 2022. The County recognized pension expense of $137,173 for its proportionate share of the Correctional Plan's pension expense.

The County reported its proportionate share of the Correctional Plan's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Correctional Plan
Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	$ 60,764	$ 11,992
Changes in actuarial assumptions	324,446	719,746
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	-	20,489
Changes in proportion	99,528	477
Contributions paid to PERA subsequent to the measurement date	39,486	-
Total	$ 524,224	$ 752,704

The $39,486 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Correctional Plan
Schedule of Amortization of
Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources
As of December 31, 2023

Year Ended December 31	Pension Expense Amount
2024	$ 5,305
2025	(321,206)
2026	64,584
2027	(16,649)

Total Pension Expense

The total pension expense for all plans recognized by the County for the year ended December 31, 2023, was $1,457,317.

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation was determined using the individual entry-age normal actuarial cost method and the following additional actuarial assumptions:

Actuarial Assumptions for the Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Employees Fund	Police and Fire Fund	Correctional Fund
Inflation	2.25% per year	2.25% per year	2.25% per year
Active Member Payroll Growth	3.00% per year	3.00% per year	3.00% per year
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%

Salary increases were based on a service-related table. Mortality rates for active members, retirees, survivors, and disabilitants were based on the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality table for the General Employees Plan and the Pub-2010 Public Safety Employee Mortality tables for the Police and Fire and the Correctional Plans, with slight adjustments. Cost-of-living benefit increases for retirees are assumed to be 1.25 percent for the General Employees Plan and 2.00 percent for the Correctional Plan. For the Police and Fire Plan, cost-of-living benefit increases for retirees are 1.00 percent as set by state statute.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, valuations were based on the results of actuarial experience studies. The experience study for the General Employees Plan was dated June 27, 2019. The experience study for the Police and Fire Plan was dated July 14, 2020. The experience study for the Correctional Plan was dated July 10, 2020. For all plans, a review of inflation and investment assumptions dated June 29, 2023, was utilized.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.00 percent. The State Board of Investment, which manages the investments of PERA, prepares an analysis of the reasonableness of the long-term expected rate of return on a regular basis using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce an expected long-term rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentages.

Pension Plan Investment Target Allocation and Best Estimates of Geometric Real Rates of Return for Each Major Asset Class

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic equities	33.50%	5.10%
International equities	16.50%	5.30%
Fixed income	25.00%	0.75%
Private markets	25.00%	5.90%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent in 2023. This was an increase from the 6.50 percent, 5.40 percent, and 5.42 percent used in 2022 for the General Employees Plan, the Police and Fire Plan, and the Correctional Plan, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee and employer contributions will be made at the rate specified in statute. Based on that assumption, the fiduciary net position of the General Employees Plan, the Police and Fire Plan, and the Correctional Plan were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions and Plan Provisions

The following changes in actuarial assumptions occurred in 2023:

General Employees Plan

- The investment return assumption and single discount rate were changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.
- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $170.1 million occurred on October 1, 2023.
- The vesting period for those hired after June 30, 2010, was changed from five years of allowable service to three years of allowable service.
- The benefit increase delay for early retirements on or after January 1, 2024, was eliminated.
- For Basic Plan members, a one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 4.00 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.
- For Coordinated Plan members, a one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 2.50 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

Police and Fire Plan

- The investment return assumption was changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.
- The single discount rate changed from 5.40 percent to 7.00 percent.
- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $19.4 million occurred on October 1, 2023.

- The vesting requirement for new hires after June 30, 2014, was changed from a graded 20-year vesting schedule to a graded ten year vesting schedule, with 50 percent vesting after five years, increasing incrementally to 100 percent after ten years.

- A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 3.00 percent will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

- Psychological treatment is required effective July 1, 2023, prior to approval for a duty disability benefit for a psychological condition relating to the member's occupation.

- A total and permanent duty disability benefit was added effective July 1, 2023.

Correctional Plan

- The investment return rate was changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.

- The single discount rate changed from 5.42 percent to 7.00 percent.

- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $5.3 million occurred on October 1, 2023.

- A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 2.50 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

- The maximum benefit increase will revert back to 2.50 percent, if the maximum increase is 1.50 percent and the Plan's funding ratio improves to 85 percent for two consecutive years on a market value of assets basis.

Pension Liability Sensitivity

The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate previously disclosed, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current discount rate:

Sensitivity of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate As of December 31, 2023

	Proportionate Share of the					
	General Employees Plan		Police and Fire Plan		Correctional Plan	
	Discount Rate	Net Pension Liability	Discount Rate	Net Pension Liability	Discount Rate	Net Pension Liability (Asset)
1% Decrease	6.00%	$ 10,743,254	6.00%	$ 3,278,984	6.00%	$ 831,601
Current	7.00%	6,072,790	7.00%	1,652,615	7.00%	157,765
1% Increase	8.00%	2,231,157	8.00%	315,521	8.00%	(379,869)

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately issued PERA financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained on the internet at www.mnpera.org.

Defined Contribution Plan

Four elected officials of Sibley County are covered by the Public Employees Defined Contribution Plan, a multiple-employer deferred compensation plan administered by PERA. The plan is established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. ch. 353D, which may be amended by the state legislature. The plan is a tax qualified plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, and all contributions by or on behalf of employees are tax deferred until time of withdrawal.

Plan benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings, less administrative expenses. For those qualified personnel who elect to participate, Minn. Stat. § 353D.03 specifies plan provisions, including the employee and employer contribution rates. An eligible elected official who decides to participate contributes five percent of salary, which is matched by the employer. Employee and employer contributions are combined and used to purchase shares in one or more of the seven accounts of the Minnesota Supplemental Investment Fund. For administering the plan, PERA receives two percent of employer contributions and 0.25 percent of the assets in each member account annually.

Total Contributions by Dollar Amount and
Percentage of Covered Payroll Made by the Employer
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Employee	Employer
Contribution amount	$ 7,250	$ 7,250
Percentage of covered payroll	5.00%	5.00%

Note 4 – Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; or natural disasters for which the County carries commercial insurance. To manage these risks, the County has entered into a joint powers agreement with other Minnesota counties to form the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT). The County is a member of both the MCIT Workers' Compensation and Property and Casualty Divisions. Employee health insurance is provided through the McLeod and Sibley Joint Self-Insurance Pool, which has joined the Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative (Service Cooperative) to establish, procure, and administer group employee benefits. For other risk, the County carries commercial insurance. There were no significant reductions in insurance from the prior year. The amount of settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Workers' Compensation Division of MCIT is self-sustaining based on the contributions charged, so that total contributions plus compounded earnings on these contributions will equal the amount needed to satisfy claims liabilities and other expenses. MCIT participates in the Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association with coverage at $500,000 per claim in 2023 and 2024. Should the MCIT Workers' Compensation Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

The Property and Casualty Division of MCIT is self-sustaining, and the County pays an annual premium to cover current and future losses. MCIT carries reinsurance for its property lines to protect against catastrophic losses. Should the MCIT Property and Casualty Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

The Service Cooperative is a joint powers entity which sponsors a plan to provide group employee health benefits to its participating members. The McLeod and Sibley Joint Powers Enterprise became a participating member effective January 1, 2020. All members pool premiums and losses; however, a particular member may receive increases or decreases depending on a good or bad year of claims experience. Premiums are determined annually by the Service Cooperative and are based partially on the experience of the McLeod and Sibley Joint Self-Insurance Pool and partially on the experience of the group. The Service Cooperative solicits proposals from carriers and negotiates the contracts.

Note 5 – Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

Contingent Liabilities

Amounts received or receivable from grant agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of the expenditures that may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the County Attorney, the resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the government.

In 1993, the South Central Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority issued $20,315,000 of revenue bonds to construct housing units in Sibley County and four surrounding counties. The Authority has since defaulted on these bonds. In 2000, the counties entered into a settlement agreement where each of the counties will approve a special tax levy on behalf of the Authority from 2001 through 2024 to cover the operating deficits based on each county’s proportionate share of the housing units constructed. Sibley County’s proportionate share of the operating deficit for 2023 is $153,203. The proportionate shares of the counties may change for 2024 if there are changes in the taxable market value over the 2001 taxable market value.

Joint Ventures

Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services Board

The Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services Board was established pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 145A.09 to 145A.14, Minn. Stat. § 471.59, and a joint powers agreement, effective April 19, 1990. The Community Health Services Board consists of six members, two each from Meeker, McLeod, and Sibley Counties. The primary function of the joint venture is to provide health services and to promote efficiency and economy in the delivery of health services.

The joint venture is financed primarily from state and federal grants.

Current financial statements are available from the Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services Board, 114 North Holcombe Avenue, Suite 250, Litchfield, Minnesota 55355.

McLeod and Sibley Counties Joint Powers Enterprise

The McLeod and Sibley Counties Joint Powers Enterprise was established in 2020 under the authority of Minn. Stat. § 471.59. The purpose of the Joint Powers Enterprise is to cooperatively arrange for the provisions of medical care, and potentially other benefits, to the employees of the members. The governing board is composed of one Board member from each of the participating entities. The Joint Powers Enterprise is a participant in the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative.

Sibley County Children's Collaborative

Sibley County and Independent School Districts 2310 and 2365 have created the Sibley County Children's Collaborative, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59 and a joint powers agreement. The purpose of the Collaborative is to facilitate early intervention and prevention services to at-risk children and their families.

The Collaborative consists of two representatives from the Sibley County Board of Commissioners, one representative from the Independent School District 2310 Board of Education, one representative from the Independent School District 2365 Board of Education, and one consumer/parent representative from each of the participating school districts.

Sibley County is the fiscal agent of the Collaborative. Sibley County has no operational or financial control over the Collaborative. During the year, the County contributed $1,000 to the Collaborative.

Audited financial statements can be obtained from the Collaborative's office at the Sibley County Courthouse, 400 Court Avenue, PO Box 207, Gaylord, Minnesota 55334.

South Central Emergency Communications Board

The South Central Emergency Communications Board (formerly known as the South Central Minnesota Regional Radio Board) was established pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 403.39 and a joint powers agreement effective May 27, 2008. It is comprised of Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties, and the Cities of Hutchinson and Mankato. The primary function of the joint venture is to provide regional administration of enhancements to the Statewide Public Safety Radio and Communication System for the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) owned and operated by the State of Minnesota and to enhance and improve interoperable public safety communications.

The Board consists of one County Commissioner from each county included in the agreement, one City Council member from each city included in the agreement, a member of the South Central Minnesota Regional Advisory Committee, a member of the South Central Minnesota Regional Radio System User Committee, and a member of the Owners and Operators Committee.

Blue Earth County acts as the fiscal agent for the Board. During the year, Sibley County did not contribute to the Board. Financial information can be obtained at the Blue Earth County Justice Center, 401 Carver Road, Mankato, Minnesota 56002.

South Central Workforce Service Area Joint Powers Board

In June 2012, the County entered into a joint powers agreement with Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties, creating the South Central Workforce Service Area Joint Powers Board. The agreement is authorized by Minn. Stat. § 471.59. The Board is comprised of one voting member and one alternate member for each participating county. The goal of the Board is to develop and maintain a quality workforce for South Central Minnesota. Sibley County did not make any payments to this organization in 2023.

Separate financial information can be obtained from the South Central Workforce Council, 706 North Victory Drive, Mankato, Minnesota 56001.

South Country Health Alliance

The South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) was created by a joint powers agreement between Brown, Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Kanabec, Mower, Sibley, Steele, Wabasha, and Waseca Counties on July 24, 1998, under Minn. Stat. § 471.59. Mower County has since withdrawn. In 2007, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena Counties joined in the joint venture. As of December 31, 2010, Cass, Crow Wing, and Freeborn Counties elected to opt out of the SCHA, consistent with the terms of the joint powers agreement. As of December 31, 2019, Morrison and Wadena Counties elected to opt out of the SCHA, consistent with the terms of the joint powers agreement. The agreement was in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 256B.692, which allows the formation of a Board of Directors to operate, control, and manage all matters concerning the participating member counties' health care functions, referred to as county-based purchasing.

The purpose of the SCHA is to improve the social and health outcomes of its clients and all citizens of its member counties by better coordinating social service, public health and medical services, and promoting the achievement of public health goals. The SCHA is authorized to provide prepaid comprehensive health maintenance services to persons enrolled under Medicaid and General Assistance Medical Care in each of the member counties.

Each member county has an explicit and measurable right to its share of the total capital surplus of the SCHA. Gains and losses are allocated annually to all members based on the percentage of their utilization. Sibley County's equity interest in the SCHA at December 31, 2023, was $6,335,063. The equity interest is reported as an investment in joint venture on the County's government-wide statement of net position. Changes in equity are included in the County's government-wide statement of activities as human services program expenses or revenues.

Complete financial statements for the SCHA can be obtained from the South Country Health Alliance, 2300 Park Drive, Suite 100, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060.

Trailblazer Transit Board

Sibley County entered into a joint powers agreement with McLeod County creating and operating the Trailblazer Transit Board, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59 and a joint powers agreement, effective June 8, 1999. In 2018, Wright County joined the joint powers with McLeod and Sibley Counties. Management of the Trailblazer Transit Board is vested in the Joint Powers Board consisting of three members appointed by McLeod County and two members appointed by both Sibley and Wright Counties from each Board of County Commissioners. The primary purpose of the Trailblazer Transit Board is to provide centralized planning and implementation of needed public transit services.

Financing is primarily provided from state and federal grants. Member counties are committed to providing the local match necessary to meet the requirements for state and federal funding. During the year, Sibley County contributed $46,250 to the Board.

Current financial statements can be obtained with a one-day notice from the administrative office at Trailblazer Transit, Gary Ludwig, Director, 207 – 11th Street West, Glencoe, Minnesota 55336.

Tri-County Solid Waste

Sibley County entered into a joint powers agreement to create and operate Tri-County Solid Waste, pursuant to the Waste Management Act, Minn. Stat. § 471.59, and a joint powers agreement, effective November 3, 1987. Management of Tri-County Solid Waste is vested in the Tri-County Solid Waste Joint Powers Board, which consists of six representatives, two representatives from each Board of County Commissioners from Le Sueur, Nicollet, and Sibley Counties. The primary function of Tri-County Solid Waste is to coordinate solid waste management programs, excluding the collection and disposal of solid waste, within the multi-county area. Emphasis is placed on planning, recycling, hazardous waste, problem materials, and education.

One-half of the financing is provided by appropriations from the three counties based on the ratio of their population to the total population of the member counties, and one-half is provided by an equal appropriation from the three counties. Sibley County contributed $81,357 in 2023. Sibley County is the fiscal agent. Current financial statements are not available.

Jointly-Governed Organizations

Sibley County, in conjunction with other governmental entities and various private organizations, has formed the jointly-governed organizations listed below.

Region Five – Southwest Minnesota Homeland Security Emergency Management Organization

The Region Five – Southwest Minnesota Homeland Security Emergency Management Organization was established to provide for regional coordination of planning, training, purchase of equipment, and allocating emergency services and staff in order to better respond to emergencies and natural or other disasters within the region. Control is vested in the Board, which is composed of representatives appointed by each Board of County Commissioners. Sibley County's responsibility does not extend beyond making this appointment.

Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network

The Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network joint powers agreement exists to create access for the County Sheriff and County Attorney to systems and tools available from the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to carry out criminal justice. During the year, Sibley County contributed $1,350 to the joint powers entity.

Sentencing to Service

Sibley County, in conjunction with other local governments, participates in the State of Minnesota's Sentencing to Service (STS) program. STS is a project of the State Department of Administration's Strive Toward Excellence in Performance (STEP) program. STEP's goal is a statewide effort to make positive improvements in public services. It gives the courts an alternative to jail or fines for the nonviolent offenders who can work on a variety of community or state projects. Private funding, funds from various foundations and initiative funds, as well as the Minnesota Departments of Corrections and Natural Resources, provide the funds needed to operate the STS program. Although Sibley County has no operational or financial control over the STS program, the County budgets for a percentage of this program.

South Central Community-Based Initiative

The South Central Community-Based Initiative Joint Powers Board was established pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 245.4661 and a joint powers agreement effective June 20, 2008. The purpose of this joint powers agreement is to provide services to persons with mental illness in the most clinically-appropriate, person-centered, least restrictive, and cost-effective ways. The focus is on improved access and outcomes for persons with mental illness as a result of the collaboration between state-operated services programs and community-based treatment. The membership of the Board is comprised of one representative appointed by Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Freeborn, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Rice, Sibley, and Watonwan Counties. Sibley County did not contribute to the South Central Community-Based Initiative in 2023.

South Central Emergency Medical Service

The South Central Emergency Medical Service (SCEMS) Joint Powers Board consists of Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties. The purpose of the SCEMS is to ensure quality patient care is available throughout the nine-county area by maximizing the response capabilities of emergency medical personnel and to promote public education on injury prevention and appropriate response during a medical emergency. Each county appoints one member to the Joint Powers Board. Sibley County did not contribute to the SCEMS in 2023.

Southwest Minnesota Immunization Information Connection

The Southwest Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (SW-MIIC) Joint Powers Board promotes an implementation and maintenance of a regional immunization information system to ensure age-appropriate immunizations through complete and accurate records. Sibley County did not contribute to the SW-MIIC during 2023.

Property Assessed Clean Energy Loan Program

The County has entered into an agreement with the Saint Paul Port Authority to facilitate the implementation and administration of the Property-Assessed Clean Energy loan program. Through this program, qualifying commercial building owners within the County can receive loans from the Port Authority for the purpose of financing energy efficiency and conservation building improvement projects. While the County is not liable for the repayment of the loans in any manner, it does have certain responsibilities under the agreement. By participating, the County has agreed to: (1) levy assessments against the related properties in accordance with the loan agreements between the Port Authority and property owners, (2) collect scheduled assessment payments, and (3) transfer all collections to the Port Authority. The County has met those responsibilities for 2023.

Required Supplementary Information

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-1

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts Original	Budgeted Amounts Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 7,953,121	$ 7,953,121	$ 7,791,537	$ (161,584)
Special assessments	135,600	135,600	218,390	82,790
Licenses and permits	60,225	60,225	51,839	(8,386)
Intergovernmental	1,268,610	1,268,610	2,306,542	1,037,932
Settlements	-	-	25,795	25,795
Charges for services	893,756	893,756	936,042	42,286
Fines and forfeits	8,760	8,760	9,303	543
Gifts and contributions	2,400	2,400	2,970	570
Investment earnings	360,940	360,940	1,351,079	990,139
Miscellaneous	253,627	253,627	477,391	223,764
Total Revenues	**$ 10,937,039**	**$ 10,937,039**	**$ 13,170,888**	**$ 2,233,849**
Expenditures				
Current				
General government				
County commissioners	$ 334,989	$ 334,989	$ 289,431	$ 45,558
Court administrator	11,150	11,150	7,426	3,724
Juvenile restitution	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
District court	110,950	110,950	140,272	(29,322)
Law library	20,000	20,000	11,849	8,151
County auditor	528,650	528,650	547,881	(19,231)
Deputy registrar	223,253	223,253	227,738	(4,485)
Audit services	87,225	87,225	92,707	(5,482)
Data processing information services	830,802	830,802	940,822	(110,020)
Elections/voter registration	93,344	93,344	91,073	2,271
County administrator	852,944	852,944	842,153	10,791
County attorney	515,559	515,559	597,109	(81,550)
County attorney forfeitures	10,196	10,196	7,600	2,596
County recorder	345,514	345,514	378,676	(33,162)
County surveyor	36,500	36,500	39,963	(3,463)
Assessor	607,261	607,261	688,143	(80,882)
Planning and zoning	128,935	128,935	113,932	15,003
Recorder's technology	38,000	38,000	32,731	5,269
Land records compliance	41,000	41,000	7,913	33,087
Courthouse building	103,490	103,490	149,744	(46,254)
Building custodians	214,075	214,075	197,995	16,080
Other County buildings	1,943	1,943	4,208	(2,265)
Jail building	65,090	65,090	86,644	(21,554)
Service center building	106,874	106,874	72,284	34,590
Barclay property purchase	-	-	3,943	(3,943)
Sheriff storage garage	2,600	2,600	1,866	734
Sibley Estates East and West	7,000	7,000	26,314	(19,314)
County Connections building	6,396	6,396	5,187	1,209
Veterans service officer	158,291	158,291	194,533	(36,242)
Public transit	15,000	15,000	46,250	(31,250)
Fleet car	19,000	19,000	18,338	662
Shoreland ordinance	2,700	2,700	71	2,629
Non-departmental	17,500	17,500	22,135	(4,635)
Total general government	**$ 5,537,231**	**$ 5,537,231**	**$ 5,886,931**	**$ (349,700)**

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-1
(Continued)

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Expenditures				
Current (Continued)				
Public safety				
County sheriff	$ 1,756,240	$ 1,756,240	$ 1,954,415	$ (198,175)
Alcohol enforcement and education	-	-	750	(750)
Enhanced 911 system	108,440	108,440	117,260	(8,820)
Drug task force	123,516	123,516	150,727	(27,211)
Prisoner board/County jail	1,638,968	1,638,968	1,700,626	(61,658)
Conceal and carry	23,747	23,747	24,901	(1,154)
Tobacco ordinance	900	900	179	721
Medical examiner	36,804	36,804	36,533	271
Probation officer	260,362	260,362	301,622	(41,260)
Sentence to serve	78,791	78,791	62,004	16,787
Emergency management	63,657	63,657	77,159	(13,502)
South Central Minnesota Regional Radio Board	1,500	1,500	-	1,500
Total public safety	**$ 4,092,925**	**$ 4,092,925**	**$ 4,426,176**	**$ (333,251)**
Sanitation				
SCORE solid waste	$ 227,766	$ 227,766	$ 228,171	$ (405)
County landfill	1,028	1,028	350	678
Total sanitation	**$ 228,794**	**$ 228,794**	**$ 228,521**	**$ 273**
Culture and recreation				
Historical society	$ 15,000	$ 15,000	$ 15,000	$ -
Sibley County Library System	387,484	387,484	387,485	(1)
County parks	32,600	32,600	43,568	(10,968)
County seat trail	37,000	37,000	38,515	(1,515)
Total culture and recreation	**$ 472,084**	**$ 472,084**	**$ 484,568**	**$ (12,484)**
Conservation of natural resources				
Soil and water conservation	$ 179,735	$ 179,735	$ 234,550	$ (54,815)
Extension	170,393	170,393	149,246	21,147
Agriculture ditch inspector	287,681	287,681	322,435	(34,754)
County fair	25,000	25,000	18,750	6,250
Aquatic invasive species	61,455	61,455	30,728	30,727
Total conservation of natural resources	**$ 724,264**	**$ 724,264**	**$ 755,709**	**$ (31,445)**
Economic development				
Housing and Redevelopment Authority	$ 150,631	$ 150,631	$ 153,487	$ (2,856)
Minnesota Valley Action Council	-	-	7,034	(7,034)
Economic Development Commission	17,108	17,108	24,812	(7,704)
Total economic development	**$ 167,739**	**$ 167,739**	**$ 185,333**	**$ (17,594)**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-1
(Continued)

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts Original	Budgeted Amounts Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget
Expenditures (Continued)				
Intergovernmental				
Economic development	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 82,600**	**$ (82,600)**
Capital outlay				
General government	$ -	$ -	$ 80,310	$ (80,310)
Public safety	29,000	29,000	2,066	26,934
Culture and recreation	1,500	1,500	152	1,348
Total capital outlay	**$ 30,500**	**$ 30,500**	**$ 82,528**	**$ (52,028)**
Debt service				
Principal	$ -	$ -	$ 9,788	$ (9,788)
Interest	-	-	1,318	(1,318)
Total debt service	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 11,106**	**$ (11,106)**
Total Expenditures	**$ 11,253,537**	**$ 11,253,537**	**$ 12,143,472**	**$ (889,935)**
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	**$ (316,498)**	**$ (316,498)**	**$ 1,027,416**	**$ 1,343,914**
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Leases issued	-	-	103,934	(103,934)
Net Change in Fund Balance	**$ (316,498)**	**$ (316,498)**	**$ 1,131,350**	**$ 1,239,980**
Fund Balance – January 1	**8,760,449**	**8,760,449**	**8,760,449**	**-**
Fund Balance – December 31	**$ 8,443,951**	**$ 8,443,951**	**$ 9,891,799**	**$ 1,239,980**

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-2

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
Public Works Special Revenue Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 4,903,181	$ 4,903,181	$ 4,801,421	$ (101,760)
Intergovernmental	25,351,257	25,351,257	6,265,832	(19,085,425)
Charges for services	109,000	109,000	148,381	39,381
Miscellaneous	118,400	118,400	220,485	102,085
Total Revenues	**$ 30,481,838**	**$ 30,481,838**	**$ 11,436,119**	**$ (19,045,719)**
Expenditures				
Current				
Highways and streets				
Maintenance	$ 4,212,036	$ 4,212,036	$ 3,274,861	$ 937,175
Construction	27,007,706	27,007,706	5,853,176	21,154,530
Equipment maintenance and shops	1,127,508	1,127,508	987,993	139,515
Administration	417,538	417,538	460,420	(42,882)
Township allotments	42,000	42,000	42,572	(572)
Total highways and streets	**$ 32,806,788**	**$ 32,806,788**	**$ 10,619,022**	**$ 22,187,766**
Intergovernmental				
Highways and streets	540,000	540,000	384,954	155,046
Capital outlay				
Highways and streets	10,000	10,000	9,810	190
Total Expenditures	**$ 33,356,788**	**$ 33,356,788**	**$ 11,013,786**	**$ 22,343,002**
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	**$ (2,874,950)**	**$ (2,874,950)**	**$ 422,333**	**$ 3,297,283**
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers out	(220,000)	(220,000)	-	220,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	**$ (3,094,950)**	**$ (3,094,950)**	**$ 422,333**	**$ 3,517,283**
Fund Balance – January 1	**12,391,549**	**12,391,549**	**12,391,549**	**-**
Increase (decrease) in inventories	**-**	**-**	**(87,234)**	**(87,234)**
Fund Balance – December 31	**$ 9,296,599**	**$ 9,296,599**	**$ 12,726,648**	**$ 3,430,049**

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-3

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 3,445,470	$ 3,445,470	$ 3,363,368	$ (82,102)
Intergovernmental	3,749,950	3,749,950	4,602,966	853,016
Charges for services	401,068	401,068	445,560	44,492
Miscellaneous	256,529	256,529	195,174	(61,355)
Total Revenues	**$ 7,853,017**	**$ 7,853,017**	**$ 8,607,068**	**$ 754,051**
Expenditures				
Current				
Human services				
Income maintenance	$ 1,911,388	$ 1,911,388	$ 1,951,529	$ (40,141)
Social services	5,289,932	5,289,932	5,384,824	(94,892)
Miscellaneous social service programs	12,815	12,815	12,660	155
Total human services	**$ 7,214,135**	**$ 7,214,135**	**$ 7,349,013**	**$ (134,878)**
Health				
Public health nurse	1,210,078	1,210,078	1,232,065	(21,987)
Total Expenditures	**$ 8,424,213**	**$ 8,424,213**	**$ 8,581,078**	**$ (156,865)**
Net Change in Fund Balance	**$ (571,196)**	**$ (571,196)**	**$ 25,990**	**$ 597,186**
Fund Balance – January 1	**5,734,775**	**5,734,775**	**5,734,775**	**-**
Fund Balance – December 31	**$ 5,163,579**	**$ 5,163,579**	**$ 5,760,765**	**$ 597,186**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios
Other Postemployment Benefits
December 31, 2023

	2023	2022
Total OPEB Liability		
Service cost	$ 49,709	$ 79,328
Interest	15,008	14,227
Differences between expected and actual experience	(186,354)	-
Changes of assumption or other inputs	(68,792)	-
Benefit payments	(24,851)	(24,881)
Net change in total OPEB liability	**$ (215,280)**	**$ 68,674**
Total OPEB Liability – Beginning	**713,055**	**644,381**
Total OPEB Liability – Ending	**$ 497,775**	**$ 713,055**
Covered-employee payroll	$ 10,620,399	$ 10,045,307
Total OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	4.69%	7.10%

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Exhibit A-4

2021	2020	2019	2018
$ 77,017	$ 57,866	$ 48,477	$ 47,312
20,018	22,266	20,316	18,785
(24,301)	-	63,160	-
(26,339)	34,809	(143,634)	-
(30,304)	(29,198)	(25,677)	(16,141)
$ 16,091	**$ 85,743**	**$ (37,358)**	**$ 49,956**
628,290	**542,547**	**579,905**	**529,949**
$ 644,381	**$ 628,290**	**$ 542,547**	**$ 579,905**
$ 9,752,725	$ 8,299,172	$ 8,057,449	$ 7,995,844
6.61%	7.57%	6.73%	7.25%

Exhibit A-5

Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
PERA General Employees Retirement Plan
December 31, 2023

Measurement Date	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability/ Asset	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a)	State's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated with Sibley County (b)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and the State's Related Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a + b)	Covered Payroll (c)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (a/c)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2023	0.1086 %	$ 6,072,790	$ 167,415	$ 6,240,205	$ 8,637,326	70.31 %	83.10 %
2022	0.1087	8,609,076	252,422	8,861,498	8,143,404	105.72	76.67
2021	0.1106	4,723,115	144,136	4,867,251	7,811,104	60.47	87.00
2020	0.1042	6,247,266	192,620	6,439,886	7,428,022	84.10	79.06
2019	0.1017	5,622,765	174,826	5,797,591	6,967,775	80.70	80.23
2018	0.1009	5,597,518	183,591	5,781,109	6,745,832	82.98	79.53
2017	0.1038	6,626,523	83,359	6,709,882	6,689,908	99.05	75.90
2016	0.0984	7,989,592	104,363	8,093,955	6,109,384	130.78	68.91
2015	0.0984	5,099,599	N/A	5,099,599	5,784,914	88.15	78.19

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The measurement date for each year is June 30.
N/A – Not Applicable

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-6

Schedule of Contributions
PERA General Employees Retirement Plan
December 31, 2023

Year Ending	Statutorily Required Contributions (a)	Actual Contributions in Relation to Statutorily Required Contributions (b)	Contribution (Deficiency) Excess (b - a)	Covered Payroll (c)	Actual Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (b/c)
2023	$ 676,597	$ 676,597	$ -	$ 9,021,297	7.50 %
2022	627,646	627,646	-	8,368,612	7.50
2021	601,535	601,535	-	8,020,464	7.50
2020	577,163	577,163	-	7,695,381	7.50
2019	539,853	539,853	-	7,198,039	7.50
2018	513,409	513,409	-	6,846,445	7.50
2017	491,539	491,539	-	6,553,854	7.50
2016	479,622	479,622	-	6,394,957	7.50
2015	455,148	455,148	-	6,069,024	7.50

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The County's year-end is December 31.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-7

Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
PERA Public Employees Police and Fire Plan
December 31, 2023

Measurement Date	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability/ Asset	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a)	State's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated with Sibley County (b)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and the State's Related Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a + b)	Covered Payroll (c)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (a/c)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2023	0.0957 %	$ 1,652,615	$ 66,599	$ 1,719,214	$ 1,257,087	131.46 %	86.47 %
2022	0.0967	4,208,002	183,784	4,391,786	1,163,174	361.77	70.53
2021	0.0845	652,250	29,324	681,574	950,479	68.62	93.66
2020	0.0784	1,033,396	24,361	1,057,757	889,936	116.12	87.19
2019	0.0800	851,681	N/A	851,681	820,896	103.75	89.26
2018	0.0789	840,993	N/A	840,993	776,552	108.30	88.84
2017	0.0810	1,093,596	N/A	1,093,596	859,012	127.31	85.43
2016	0.0780	3,130,276	N/A	3,130,276	691,357	452.77	63.88
2015	0.0740	840,813	N/A	840,813	680,776	123.51	86.61

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The measurement date for each year is June 30.
N/A – Not Applicable

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit A-8

Schedule of Contributions
PERA Public Employees Police and Fire Plan
December 31, 2023

Year Ending	Statutorily Required Contributions (a)	Actual Contributions in Relation to Statutorily Required Contributions (b)	Contribution (Deficiency) Excess (b - a)	Covered Payroll (c)	Actual Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (b/c)
2023	$ 248,264	$ 248,264	$ -	$ 1,402,623	17.70 %
2022	214,121	214,121	-	1,209,725	17.70
2021	191,444	191,444	-	1,081,606	17.70
2020	167,233	167,233	-	944,816	17.70
2019	142,816	142,816	-	842,571	16.95
2018	129,212	129,212	-	797,606	16.20
2017	128,446	128,446	-	792,876	16.20
2016	124,191	124,191	-	766,611	16.20
2015	110,069	110,069	-	679,436	16.20

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The County's year-end is December 31.

Exhibit A-9

Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability
PERA Public Employees Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Plan
December 31, 2023

Measurement Date	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability/ Asset	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) (a)	Covered Payroll (b)	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (a/b)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2023	0.3490 %	$ 157,765	$ 818,363	19.28 %	95.94 %
2022	0.3042	1,011,161	691,496	146.23	74.58
2021	0.2955	(48,545)	632,944	(7.67)	101.61
2020	0.2918	79,177	639,226	12.39	96.67
2019	0.2702	37,409	570,626	6.56	98.17
2018	0.2415	39,720	480,324	8.27	97.64
2017	0.2300	655,502	467,262	140.29	67.89
2016	0.2000	730,628	385,659	189.45	58.16
2015	0.2400	37,104	423,611	8.76	96.95

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The measurement date for each year is June 30.

Exhibit A-10

Schedule of Contributions
PERA Public Employees Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Plan
December 31, 2023

Year Ending	Statutorily Required Contributions (a)	Actual Contributions in Relation to Statutorily Required Contributions (b)	Contribution (Deficiency) Excess (b - a)	Covered Payroll (c)	Actual Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (b/c)
2023	$ 74,191	$ 74,191	$ -	$ 847,894	8.75 %
2022	67,472	67,472	-	771,103	8.75
2021	57,651	57,651	-	658,869	8.75
2020	57,114	57,114	-	652,732	8.75
2019	52,576	52,576	-	600,873	8.75
2018	47,621	47,621	-	544,235	8.75
2017	38,771	38,771	-	443,093	8.75
2016	37,078	37,078	-	423,745	8.75
2015	34,698	34,698	-	396,549	8.75

This schedule is intended to show information for ten years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.
The County's year-end is December 31.

Note 1 – Budget Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the General, Public Works Special Revenue, and Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Funds. The Sibley County Board of Commissioners holds several public hearings, and a final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than December 31. The appropriated budget is prepared by fund. Revisions that increase or decrease the budgeted revenues or expenditures of any fund must be approved by the Board of Commissioners. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

Note 2 – Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

The following fund had expenditures in excess of appropriations (the legal level of budgetary control) for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations as of December 31, 2022

Fund	Expenditures	Final Budget	Excess
General Fund	$ 12,143,472	$ 11,253,537	$ 889,935
Public Health and Human Services Special Revenue Fund	8,581,078	8,424,213	156,865

Note 3 – Other Postemployment Benefits Funded Status

Assets have not been accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph four of GASB Statement 75 to pay related benefits.

Note 4 – Other Postemployment Benefits – Changes in Significant Plan Provisions, Actuarial Methods, and Assumptions

The following changes in actuarial assumptions occurred:

2023

- The health care trend rates were changed to better anticipate short-term and long-term medical increases.
- The mortality tables were updated from the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Headcount-Weighted Mortality tables (General, Safety) with MP-2020 Generational Improvement Scale to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Headcount-Weighted Mortality tables (General, Safety) with MP-2021 Generational Improvement Scale.
- The retirement, withdrawal, and salary increase rates for public safety employees were updated to reflect the latest experience study.
- The inflation rate was changed from 2.00 percent to 2.50 percent.

- The discount rate was changed from 2.00 percent to 4.00 percent.

<u>2022</u>

- There were no changes in actuarial assumptions that occurred in 2022.

<u>2021</u>

- The health care rates, mortality tables, and salary increase rates were updated.
- The retirement and withdrawal tables for non-public safety employees were updated.
- The inflation rate was changed from 2.50 percent to 2.00 percent.
- The discount rate used changed from 2.90 percent to 2.00 percent.

<u>2020</u>

- The discount rate used changed from 3.80 percent to 2.90 percent.

<u>2019</u>

- The discount rate used changed from 3.30 percent to 3.80 percent.
- The health care trend rates were changed to better anticipate short-term and long-term medical increases.
- The mortality tables were updated from the RP-2014 Mortality tables (Blue Collar for Public Safety, White Collar for others) with MP-2016 Generational Improvement Scale to the RP-2014 Mortality tables (Blue Collar for Public Safety, White Collar for others) with the MP-2018 Generational Improvement Scale.
- The retirement and withdrawal tables for public safety employees were updated.
- The retiree plan participation percentage was changed from 50 percent to 40 percent.

<u>2018</u>

- The discount rate used changed from 3.50 percent to 3.30 percent.
- The actuarial cost method was changed from projected unit credit to entry age as prescribed by GASB 75.

Note 5 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans – Changes in Significant Plan Provisions, Actuarial Methods, and Assumptions

The following changes were reflected in the valuation performed on behalf of the Public Employees Retirement Association for the fiscal year June 30:

General Employees Retirement Plan

2023

- The investment return assumption and single discount rate were changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.
- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $170.1 million occurred on October 1, 2023.
- The vesting period for those hired after June 30, 2010, was changed from five years of allowable service to three years of allowable service.
- The benefit increase delay for early retirements on or after January 1, 2024, was eliminated.
- For Basic Plan members, a one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 4.00 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.
- For Coordinated Plan members, a one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 2.50 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

2022

- The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2020 to Scale MP-2021.

2021

- The investment return and single discount rates were changed from 7.50 percent to 6.50 percent.
- The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2019 to Scale MP-2020.

2020

- The price inflation assumption was decreased from 2.50 percent to 2.25 percent.
- The payroll growth assumption was decreased from 3.25 percent to 3.00 percent.
- Assumed salary increase rates were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019, experience study. The net effect is assumed rates that average 0.25 percent less than previous rates.
- Assumed rates of retirement were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019, experience study. The changes result in more unreduced (normal) retirements and slightly fewer Rule of 90 and early retirements.
- Assumed rates of termination were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019, experience study. The new rates are based on service and are generally lower than the previous rates for years two to five and

slightly higher thereafter.

- Assumed rates of disability were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2019, experience study. The change results in fewer predicted disability retirements for males and females.

- The base mortality table for healthy annuitants and employees was changed from the RP-2014 table to the Pub-2010 General Employee Mortality table, with adjustments. The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2014 Disabled Annuitant Mortality table to the Pub-2010 General/ Teacher Disabled Retiree Mortality table, with adjustments.

- The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2018 to Scale MP-2019.

- The assumed spouse age difference was changed from two years older for females to one year older.

- The assumed number of married male new retirees electing the 100 percent Joint and Survivor option changed from 35 percent to 45 percent. The assumed number of married female new retirees electing the 100 percent Joint and Survivor option changed from 15 percent to 30 percent. The corresponding number of married new retirees electing the Life annuity option was adjusted accordingly.

- Augmentation for current privatized members was reduced to 2.00 percent for the period July 1, 2020, through December 31, 2023, and 0.00 percent thereafter. Augmentation was eliminated for privatizations occurring after June 30, 2020.

<u>2019</u>

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2017 to Scale MP-2018.

<u>2018</u>

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2015 to Scale MP-2017.

- The assumed benefit increase rate was changed from 1.00 percent per year through 2044 and 2.50 percent per year thereafter, to 1.25 percent per year.

- The augmentation adjustment in early retirement factors is eliminated over a five-year period starting July 1, 2019, resulting in actuarial equivalence after June 30, 2024.

- Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.00 percent to 3.00 percent, beginning July 1, 2018.

- Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.00 percent, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply.

- Contribution stabilizer provisions were repealed.

- Post-retirement benefit increases were changed from 1.00 percent per year with a provision to increase to 2.50 percent upon attainment of 90 percent funding to 50 percent of the Social Security cost-of-living adjustment, not less than 1.00 percent and not more than 1.50 percent, beginning January 1, 2019.

- For retirements on or after January 1, 2024, the first benefit increase is delayed until the retiree reaches normal retirement age; does not apply to the Rule of 90 retirees, disability benefit recipients, or survivors.

- Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

2017

- The Combined Service Annuity (CSA) loads were changed from 0.80 percent for active members and 60 percent for vested and non-vested deferred members (30 percent for deferred Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund members). The revised CSA loads are now 0.00 percent for active member liability, 15 percent for vested deferred member liability, and 3.00 percent for non-vested deferred member liability.

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.00 percent per year for all years to 1.00 percent per year through 2044 and 2.50 percent per year thereafter.

- Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund plan provisions change the employer supplemental contribution to $21 million in calendar years 2017 and 2018 and returns to $31 million through calendar year 2031. The state's required contribution is $16 million in PERA's fiscal years 2018 and 2019 and returns to $6 million annually through calendar year 2031.

2016

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.00 percent per year through 2035 and 2.50 percent per year thereafter, to 1.00 percent for all future years.

- The assumed investment rate was changed from 7.90 percent to 7.50 percent. The single discount rate was also changed from 7.90 percent to 7.50 percent.

- Other assumptions were changed pursuant to the experience study dated June 30, 2015. The assumed payroll growth and inflation were decreased by 0.25 percent. Payroll growth was reduced from 3.50 percent to 3.25 percent. Inflation was reduced from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent.

Public Employees Police and Fire Plan

2023

- The investment return assumption was changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.

- The single discount rate changed from 5.40 percent to 7.00 percent.

- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $19.4 million occurred on October 1, 2023.

- The vesting requirement for new hires after June 30, 2014, was changed from a graded 20-year vesting schedule to a graded ten-year vesting schedule, with 50 percent vesting after five years, increasing incrementally to 100 percent after ten years.

- A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 3.00 percent will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.

- Psychological treatment is required effective July 1, 2023, prior to approval for a duty disability benefit for a psychological condition relating to the member’s occupation.

- A total and permanent duty disability benefit was added effective July 1, 2023.

2022

- The single discount rate changed from 6.50 percent to 5.40 percent.

- The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2020 to Scale MP-2021.

2021

- The investment return and single discount rates were changed from 7.50 percent to 6.50 percent.

- The inflation assumption was changed from 2.50 percent to 2.25 percent.

- The payroll growth assumption was changed from 3.25 percent to 3.00 percent.

- The base mortality table for healthy annuitants and employees was changed from the RP-2014 table to the Pub-2010 Public Safety Mortality table. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2019 to Scale MP-2020.

- The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Mortality table (with future mortality improvement according to Scale MP-2019) to the Pub-2010 Public Safety Disabled Annuitant Mortality table (with future mortality improvement according to Scale MP-2020).

- Assumed rates of salary increase were modified as recommended in the July 14, 2020, experience study. The overall impact is a decrease in gross salary increase rates.

- Assumed rates of retirement were changed as recommended in the July 14, 2020, experience study. The changes result in slightly more unreduced retirements and fewer assumed early retirements.

- Assumed rates of withdrawal were changed from select and ultimate rates to service-based rates. The changes result in more assumed terminations.

- Assumed rates of disability were increased for ages 25-44 and decreased for ages over 49. Overall, proposed rates result in more projected disabilities.

- Assumed percent married for active female members was changed from 60 percent to 70 percent. Minor changes to form of payment assumptions were applied.

2020

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2018 to Scale MP-2019.

2019

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2017 to Scale MP-2018.

2018

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2016 to Scale MP-2017.

- Post-retirement benefit increases changed to 1.00 percent for all years with no trigger.

- An end date of July 1, 2048, was added to the existing $9.0 million state contribution. Additionally, annual state aid will equal $4.5 million in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, and $9.0 million thereafter, until the plan reaches 100 percent funding, or July 1, 2048, if earlier.

- Member contributions were changed effective January 1, 2019, and January 1, 2020, from 10.80 percent to 11.30 and 11.80 percent of pay, respectively. Employer contributions were changed effective January 1, 2019, and January 1, 2020, from 16.20 percent to 16.95 and 17.70 percent of pay, respectively. Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.00 percent to 3.00 percent, beginning July 1, 2018.

- Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.00 percent, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply.

- Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

2017

- The assumed salary increases were changed as recommended in the June 30, 2016, experience study. The net effect is proposed rates that average 0.34 percent lower than the previous rates.

- The assumed rates of retirement were changed, resulting in fewer retirements.

- The CSA load was 30 percent for vested and non-vested, deferred members. The CSA load has been changed to 33 percent for vested members and 2.00 percent for non-vested members.

- The base mortality table for healthy annuitants was changed from the RP-2000 fully generational table to the RP-2014 fully generational table (with a base year of 2006), with male rates adjusted by a factor of 0.96. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale AA to Scale MP-2016. The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2000 disabled mortality table to the mortality table assumed for healthy retirees.

- The assumed termination rates were decreased to 3.00 percent for the first three years of service. Rates beyond the select period of three years were adjusted, resulting in more expected terminations overall.

- The assumed percentage of married female members was decreased from 65 percent to 60 percent.

- The assumed age difference was changed from separate assumptions for male members (wives assumed to be three years younger) and female members (husbands assumed to be four years older) to the assumption that males are two years older than females.

- The assumed percentage of female members electing joint and survivor annuities was increased.

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.00 percent for all years to 1.00

percent per year through 2064 and 2.50 percent thereafter.

- The single discount rate was changed from 5.60 percent per annum to 7.50 percent per annum.

2016

- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase rate was changed from 1.00 percent per year through 2037 and 2.50 percent per year thereafter, to 1.00 percent for all future years.
- The assumed investment rate was changed from 7.90 percent to 7.50 percent. The single discount rate was changed from 7.90 percent to 5.60 percent.
- The assumed payroll growth and inflation were decreased by 0.25 percent. Payroll growth was reduced from 3.50 percent to 3.25 percent. Inflation was reduced from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent.

Public Employees Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Plan

2023

- The investment return rate was changed from 6.50 percent to 7.00 percent.
- The single discount rate changed from 5.42 percent to 7.00 percent.
- A one-time direct state aid contribution of $5.3 million occurred on October 1, 2023.
- A one-time, non-compounding benefit increase of 2.50 percent, minus the actual 2024 adjustment, will be payable in a lump sum for calendar year 2024 by March 31, 2024.
- The maximum benefit increase will revert back to 2.50 percent, if the maximum increase is 1.50 percent and the Plan's funding ratio improves to 85 percent for two consecutive years on a market value of assets basis.

2022

- The single discount rate changed from 6.50 percent to 5.42 percent.
- The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2020 to Scale MP-2021.
- The benefit increase assumption was changed from 2.00 percent per annum to 2.00 percent per annum through December 31, 2054, and 1.50 percent per annum thereafter.

2021

- The investment return and single discount rates were changed from 7.50 percent to 6.50 percent.
- The inflation assumption was changed from 2.50 percent to 2.25 percent.
- The payroll growth assumption was changed from 3.25 percent to 3.00 percent.
- The base mortality table for healthy annuitants and employees was changed from the RP-2014 table to the Pub-2010 Public Safety Mortality table. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale MP-2019

to Scale MP-2020.

- The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Mortality table (with future mortality improvement according to Scale MP-2019) to the Pub-2010 Public Safety Disabled Annuitant Mortality table (with future mortality improvement according to Scale MP-2020).
- Assumed rates of salary increase were modified as recommended in the July 10, 2020, experience study. The overall impact is a decrease in gross salary increase rates.
- Assumed rates of retirement were changed as recommended in the July 10, 2020, experience study. The changes result in slightly more unreduced retirements and fewer assumed early retirements.
- Assumed rates of withdrawal were changed as recommended in the July 10, 2020, experience study. The new rates predict more terminations, both in the three-year select period (based on service) and the ultimate rates (based on age).
- Assumed rates of disability were lowered.
- Assumed percent married for active members was lowered from 85 percent to 75 percent.
- Minor changes to form of payment assumptions were applied.

2020

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2018 to Scale MP-2019.

2019

- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2017 to Scale MP-2018.

2018

- The single discount rate was changed from 5.96 percent per annum to 7.50 percent per annum.
- The mortality projection scale was changed from Scale MP-2016 to Scale MP-2017.
- The assumed post-retirement benefit increase was changed from 2.50 percent per year to 2.00 percent per year.
- The augmentation adjustment in early retirement factors is eliminated over a five-year period starting July 1, 2019, resulting in actuarial equivalence after June 30, 2024.
- Interest credited on member contributions decreased from 4.00 percent to 3.00 percent, beginning July 1, 2018.
- Deferred augmentation was changed to 0.00 percent, effective January 1, 2019. Augmentation that has already accrued for deferred members will still apply.
- Post-retirement benefit increases were changed from 2.50 percent per year with a provision to reduce to

1.00 percent if the funding status declines to a certain level, to 100 percent of the Social Security cost-of-living adjustment, not less than 1.00 percent and not more than 2.50 percent, beginning January 1, 2019. If the funding status declines to 85 percent for two consecutive years, or 80 percent for one year, the maximum increase will be lowered to 1.50 percent.

- Actuarial equivalent factors were updated to reflect revised mortality and interest assumptions.

<u>2017</u>

- The base mortality table for healthy annuitants was changed from the RP-2000 fully generational table to the RP-2014 fully generational table (with a base year of 2006), with male rates adjusted by a factor of 0.96. The mortality improvement scale was changed from Scale AA to Scale MP-2016 and is applied to healthy and disabled members. The base mortality table for disabled annuitants was changed from the RP-2000 disabled mortality table to the RP-2014 disabled annuitant mortality table (with future mortality improvement according to Scale MP-2016).

- The CSA load was 30 percent for vested and non-vested, deferred members. The CSA load has been changed to 35 percent for vested members and 1.00 percent for non-vested members.

- The single discount rate was changed from 5.31 percent per annum to 5.96 percent per annum.

<u>2016</u>

- The assumed investment rate was changed from 7.90 percent to 7.50 percent. The single discount rate was changed from 7.90 percent to 5.31 percent.

- The assumed payroll growth and inflation were decreased by 0.25 percent. Payroll growth was reduced from 3.50 percent to 3.25 percent. Inflation was reduced from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent.

Supplementary Information

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Nonmajor Funds

Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds

Revolving Loan – To account for housing rehabilitation, working capital, expansion, renovation, or start-up financing for the County's economic development program.

Sub-Surface Sewage Treatment System Loans – To account for revenues restricted for loans provided to private landowners for installation and replacement of individual sewage treatment systems or mound systems.

Water Projects – To account for the administration of the water quality and flowage of the High Island Creek, Rush River, and Bevens Silver Creek Watershed Districts, which make up the Lower Minnesota River Watershed/One Watershed One Plan.

Nonmajor Debt Service Fund

Debt Service – To account for financial resources restricted, committed, or assigned to be used for principal and interest payments on County debt.

Nonmajor Permanent Fund

Federal Lands – To account for all funds related to land purchased by the federal government.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Combining Balance Sheet
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
December 31, 2023

	Special Revenue Funds	
	Revolving Loan	Sub-Surface Sewage Treatment System Loans
Assets		
Cash and pooled investments	$ 193,848	$ 597,366
Investments	-	25,000
Taxes receivable – delinquent	-	-
Special assessments receivable		
Delinquent	-	13,693
Noncurrent	-	1,193,980
Due from other governments	-	42,020
Loans receivable	92,312	-
Total Assets	**$ 286,160**	**$ 1,872,059**
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	$ -	$ 42,020
Due to other funds	-	90
Unearned revenue	-	43,994
Total Liabilities	**$ -**	**$ 86,104**
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Unavailable revenue	$ -	$ 1,207,673
Prepaid property taxes	-	-
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	**$ -**	**$ 1,207,673**
Fund Balances		
Nonspendable for		
Loan security	$ -	$ 25,000
Federal lands	-	-
Restricted for		
Economic development loans	286,160	-
Sub-surface sewage treatment systems	-	553,282
Debt service	-	-
Total Fund Balances	**$ 286,160**	**$ 578,282**
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	**$ 286,160**	**$ 1,872,059**

Exhibit B-1

Total	Debt Service Fund	Permanent Fund Federal Lands	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds (Exhibit 3)
$ 791,214	$ 645,984	$ 261,377	$ 1,698,575
25,000	-	-	25,000
-	3,005	-	3,005
13,693	-	-	13,693
1,193,980	-	-	1,193,980
42,020	-	-	42,020
92,312	-	-	92,312
$ 2,158,219	**$ 648,989**	**$ 261,377**	**$ 3,068,585**
$ 42,020	$ 550	$ -	$ 42,570
90	-	-	90
43,994	-	-	43,994
$ 86,104	**$ 550**	**$ -**	**$ 86,654**
$ 1,207,673	$ 3,005	$ -	$ 1,210,678
-	3,261	-	3,261
$ 1,207,673	**$ 6,266**	**$ -**	**$ 1,213,939**
$ 25,000	$ -	$ -	$ 25,000
-	-	261,377	261,377
286,160	-	-	286,160
553,282	-	-	553,282
-	642,173	-	642,173
$ 864,442	**$ 642,173**	**$ 261,377**	**$ 1,767,992**
$ 2,158,219	**$ 648,989**	**$ 261,377**	**$ 3,068,585**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Special	
	Revolving Loan	Sub-Surface Sewage Treatment System Loans
Revenues		
Taxes	$ -	$ -
Special assessments	-	272,541
Intergovernmental	-	7,089
Gifts and contributions	-	-
Investment earnings	2,787	-
Total Revenues	**$ 2,787**	**$ 279,630**
Expenditures		
Current		
Sanitation	$ -	$ 291,647
Conservation of natural resources	-	-
Economic development	3,324	-
Debt service		
Principal	-	255,761
Interest	-	289
Administrative charges	-	-
Total Expenditures	**$ 3,324**	**$ 547,697**
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	**$ (537)**	**$ (268,067)**
Other Financing Sources (Uses)		
Loans issued	-	284,460
Net Change in Fund Balances	**$ (537)**	**$ 16,393**
Fund Balances – January 1	**286,697**	**561,889**
Fund Balances – December 31	**$ 286,160**	**$ 578,282**

Revenue Funds: Water Projects	Revenue Funds: Total	Debt Service Fund	Permanent Fund: Federal Lands	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds (Exhibit 5)
$ -	$ -	$ 373,343	$ -	$ 373,343
-	272,541	-	-	272,541
-	7,089	8,353	9,867	25,309
-	-	-	38,860	38,860
-	2,787	-	8,344	11,131
$ -	**$ 282,417**	**$ 381,696**	**$ 57,071**	**$ 721,184**
$ -	$ 291,647	$ -	$ -	$ 291,647
21,438	21,438	-	18,211	39,649
-	3,324	-	-	3,324
-	255,761	245,000	-	500,761
-	289	126,500	-	126,789
-	-	648	-	648
$ 21,438	**$ 572,459**	**$ 372,148**	**$ 18,211**	**$ 962,818**
$ (21,438)	**$ (290,042)**	**$ 9,548**	**$ 38,860**	**$ (241,634)**
-	284,460	-	-	284,460
$ (21,438)	**$ (5,582)**	**$ 9,548**	**$ 38,860**	**$ 42,826**
21,438	**870,024**	**632,625**	**222,517**	**1,725,166**
$ -	**$ 864,442**	**$ 642,173**	**$ 261,377**	**$ 1,767,992**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit B-3

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
Debt Service Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Taxes	$ 383,750	$ 383,750	$ 373,343	$ (10,407)
Intergovernmental	-	-	8,353	8,353
Total Revenues	**$ 383,750**	**$ 383,750**	**$ 381,696**	**$ (2,054)**
Expenditures				
Debt service				
Principal	$ 257,250	$ 257,250	$ 245,000	$ 12,250
Interest	126,500	126,500	126,500	-
Administrative charges	-	-	648	(648)
Total Expenditures	**$ 383,750**	**$ 383,750**	**$ 372,148**	**$ 11,602**
Net Change in Fund Balance	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 9,548**	**$ 9,548**
Fund Balance – January 1	**632,625**	**632,625**	**632,625**	**-**
Fund Balance – December 31	**$ 632,625**	**$ 632,625**	**$ 642,173**	**$ 9,548**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Fiduciary Funds

Custodial Funds

Sibley County Children's Collaborative – To account for all funds used in the implementation and administration of services for at-risk children and their families.

State Revenue – To account for the collection and payment of the state's share of fees collected by the County.

Taxes and Penalties – To account for the collection of taxes and penalties and their payment to the various taxing districts.

Estate Recoveries – To account for the State of Minnesota's share of estate recoveries, including those associated with the Medical Assistance Program.

Writs of Execution – To account for the collection and payment of money in the processing of writs of execution by the County Sheriff's Department.

Jail Canteen – To account for inmate deposits, inmate canteen purchases, and fees paid to various agencies.

Licensing Accounts – To account for the collection and payment of the state's share of licensing fees collected by the County's License Center.

Forfeited Tax – To account for all funds collected under state statute for the sale of property forfeited for unpaid tax.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds – Custodial Funds
December 31, 2023

	Sibley County Children's Collaborative		State Revenue	
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	$	75,951	$	50,591
Taxes receivable for other governments		-		-
Special assessments receivable for other governments		-		-
Accounts receivable		3,321		2,800
Total Assets	**$**	**79,272**	**$**	**53,391**
Liabilities				
Due to others	$	527	$	1,441
Due to other governments		1,852		1,510
Total Liabilities	**$**	**2,379**	**$**	**2,951**
Deferred Inflows of Resources				
Prepaid taxes	$	-	$	-
Net Position				
Restricted for individuals, organizations, and other governments	**$**	**76,893**	**$**	**50,440**

Taxes and Penalties	Estate Recoveries	Jail Canteen	Licensing Accounts	Forfeited Tax	Total Custodial Funds
$ 450,079	$ -	$ 67,457	$ 83,200	$ 20,110	$ 747,388
211,599	-	-	-	-	211,599
61,026	-	-	-	-	61,026
-	1,550	-	-	-	7,671
$ 722,704	**$ 1,550**	**$ 67,457**	**$ 83,200**	**$ 20,110**	**$ 1,027,684**
$ 3,107	$ -	$ 1,315	$ -	$ -	$ 6,390
413,311	1,550	-	-	-	418,223
$ 416,418	**$ 1,550**	**$ 1,315**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 424,613**
$ 76,481	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 76,481**
$ 229,805	**$ -**	**$ 66,142**	**$ 83,200**	**$ 20,110**	**$ 526,590**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Combining Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds – Custodial Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Sibley County Children's Collaborative	State Revenue	Taxes and Penalties
Additions			
Contributions from individuals	$ -	$ 22,758	$ -
Interest earnings	3,321	-	-
Property tax collections for other governments	-	-	17,795,739
Fees collected for the state	-	546,918	-
Payments from the state	82,612	-	12,807
Refunds collected for other entities	-	-	-
Payments from other entities	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	13,471	-	-
Total Additions	**$ 99,404**	**$ 569,676**	**$ 17,808,546**
Deductions			
Beneficiary payments to individuals	$ -	$ -	$ -
Payments of property tax to other governments	-	-	17,895,526
Payments to the state	-	558,482	-
Administrative expense	-	-	-
Payments to other entities	46,389	-	104,399
Total Deductions	**$ 46,389**	**$ 558,482**	**$ 17,999,925**
Change in Net Position	**$ 53,015**	**$ 11,194**	**$ (191,379)**
Net Position – January 1	**23,878**	**39,246**	**421,184**
Net Position – December 31	**$ 76,893**	**$ 50,440**	**$ 229,805**

Estate Recoveries	Writs of Execution	Jail Canteen	Licensing Accounts	Forfeited Tax	Total Custodial Funds
$ 218,277	$ 481,675	$ -	$ 60,253	$ -	$ 782,963
-	-	-	-	-	3,321
-	-	-	-	-	17,795,739
-	-	-	2,860,178	-	3,407,096
-	-	-	-	-	95,419
-	-	-	-	1,009	1,009
-	-	97,645	-	51,436	149,081
-	-	-	-	-	13,471
$ 218,277	**$ 481,675**	**$ 97,645**	**$ 2,920,431**	**$ 52,445**	**$ 22,248,099**
$ -	$ -	$ 19,161	$ -	$ -	$ 19,161
-	-	-	-	-	17,895,526
218,277	-	-	2,820,848	-	3,597,607
-	121	13	46,284	544	46,962
-	482,070	66,026	20	32,383	731,287
$ 218,277	**$ 482,191**	**$ 85,200**	**$ 2,867,152**	**$ 32,927**	**$ 22,290,543**
$ -	**$ (516)**	**$ 12,445**	**$ 53,279**	**$ 19,518**	**$ (42,444)**
-	**516**	**53,697**	**29,921**	**592**	**569,034**
$ -	**$ -**	**$ 66,142**	**$ 83,200**	**$ 20,110**	**$ 526,590**

Schedules

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit D-1

Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Governmental Funds	Enterprise Fund	Total
Appropriations and Shared Revenue			
State			
Highway users tax	$ 5,037,196	$ -	$ 5,037,196
Market value credit	360,690	-	360,690
PERA aid	265,593	-	265,593
Disparity reduction aid	54,664	-	54,664
County program aid	628,897	-	628,897
Local option disaster credit	574	-	574
Police aid	150,637	-	150,637
Public safety aid	335,391	-	335,391
Enhanced 911	176,467	-	176,467
Next generation 911	44,099	-	44,099
Petroleum tax relief	2,282	-	2,282
Statewide affordable housing aid	91,857	-	91,857
Local homeless prevention aid	43,296	-	43,296
Medical assistance renewal aid	95,034	-	95,034
SCORE	72,440	-	72,440
Aquatic invasive species prevention aid	61,455	-	61,455
Riparian protection aid	108,359	-	108,359
Total appropriations and shared revenue	**$ 7,528,931**	**$ -**	**$ 7,528,931**
Reimbursement for Services			
State			
Minnesota Department of Human Services	**$ 1,262,114**	**$ -**	**$ 1,262,114**
Payments			
Local			
Local contributions	$ 4,555	$ -	$ 4,555
Payments in lieu of taxes	46,065	-	46,065
Total payments	**$ 50,620**	**$ -**	**$ 50,620**
Grants			
State			
Minnesota Department/Office of			
Public Safety	$ 72,158	$ -	$ 72,158
Health	89,274	-	89,274
Natural Resources	42,485	-	42,485
Human Services	1,107,565	-	1,107,565
Veterans Affairs	7,500	-	7,500
Corrections	111,713	-	111,713
Transportation	722,056	-	722,056
Peace Officer Standards and Training Board	14,143	-	14,143
Water and Soil Resources Board	30,767	-	30,767
Supreme Court	20,410	-	20,410
Pollution Control Agency	25,689	-	25,689
Historical Society	597	-	597
Total state	**$ 2,244,357**	**$ -**	**$ 2,244,357**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit D-1
(Continued)

Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Governmental Funds	Enterprise Fund	Total
Grants (Continued)			
Federal			
Department of			
Agriculture	$ 288,315	$ -	$ 288,315
Housing and Urban Development	-	180,289	180,289
Transportation	300,000	-	300,000
Treasury	50,959	-	50,959
Education	1,050	-	1,050
Health and Human Services	1,546,461	-	1,546,461
Total federal	**$ 2,186,785**	**$ 180,289**	**$ 2,367,074**
Total state and federal grants	**$ 4,431,142**	**$ 180,289**	**$ 4,611,431**
Total Intergovernmental Revenue	**$ 13,272,807**	**$ 180,289**	**$ 13,453,096**

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit D-2

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture			
Passed Through Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services			
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children	10.557	16162MN004W1003	$ 27,193
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
SNAP Cluster			
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	232MN101S2514	221,791
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	232MN101S2520	914
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	232MN127Q7503	38,417
(Total State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program 10.561 $261,122)			
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			**$ 288,315**
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			
Passed Through Minnesota Housing Finance Agency			
Housing Voucher Cluster			
Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers	14.871	MN46-8023-001	**$ 180,289**
U.S. Department of Transportation			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Transportation			
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	00072	**$ 300,000**
U.S. Department of the Treasury			
Direct			
Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund	21.032		**$ 50,959**
U.S. Department of Education			
Passed Through Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services			
Special Education – Grants for Infants and Families	84.181	H181A150029	**$ 1,050**
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed Through Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services			
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention	93.251	H61MC00035	$ 150
COVID-19 – Immunization Cooperative Agreements	93.268	Not Provided	717
Activities to Support State, Tribal, Local and Territorial (STLT) Health Department Response to Public Health or Healthcare Crises	93.391	NH75OT000032	55,878
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	2301MNTANF	19,687
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 $152,648)			
Medicaid Cluster			
Medical Assistance Program	93.778	2305MN5ADM	25,372
(Total Medical Assistance Program 93.778 $761,228)			
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	93.959	S 2B08TIO10027-18	14,547
CDC's Collaboration with Academia to Strengthen Public Health	93.967	Not Provided	10,603
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994	B04MC28107	16,934

The notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Exhibit D-2
(Continued)

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Program or Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Continued)			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	93.556	2201MNFPSS	3,310
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	2301MNTANF	132,961
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 $152,648)			
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	2301MNCSES	282,196
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	2301MNCEST	42,332
(Total Child Support Enforcement 93.563 $324,528)			
Refugee and Entrant Assistance – State Administered Programs	93.566	2301MNRCMA	737
CCDF Cluster			
Child Care and Development Block Grant	93.575	2301MNCCDF	5,242
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grants	93.590	2202MNBCAP	4,506
Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program	93.645	2201MNCWSS	5,404
Foster Care – Title IV-E	93.658	2301MNFOST	91,754
Social Services Block Grant	93.667	2301MNSOSR	96,749
Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions Program	93.747	2101MNAPC6	623
Children's Health Insurance Program	93.767	2305MN5021	903
Medicaid Cluster			
Medical Assistance Program	93.778	2305MN5ADM	728,062
Medical Assistance Program	93.778	2305MN5MAP	7,794
(Total Medical Assistance Program 93.778 $761,228)			
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			**$ 1,546,461**
Total Federal Awards			**$ 2,367,074**

Totals by Cluster	
Total expenditures for SNAP Cluster	$ 261,122
Total expenditures for Housing Voucher Cluster	180,289
Total expenditures for Medicaid Cluster	761,228
Total expenditures for CCDF Cluster	5,242

The County did not pass any federal awards through to subrecipients during the year ended December 31, 2023.

The notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by Sibley County. The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of Sibley County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents only a selected portion of the operations of Sibley County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of Sibley County.

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the basis of accounting used by the individual funds of Sibley County. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting, and proprietary funds use the full accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Note 2 – De Minimis Cost Rate

Sibley County has elected to not use the ten percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Management and Compliance Section

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Office of the State Auditor

Suite 500
525 Park Street
Saint Paul, MN 55103

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners
Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sibley County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 30, 2024. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the Sibley Estates of Sibley County and the South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) joint venture, as described in our report on the County's financial statements. For Sibley Estates of Sibley County, this report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors. The financial statements of the SCHA joint venture were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and, accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or instances of reportable noncompliance associated with the SCHA.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Sibley County's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting.

A *deficiency in internal control over financial reporting* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not

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identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Sibley County's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Minnesota Legal Compliance

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Sibley County failed to comply with the provisions of the contracting – bid laws, depositories of public funds and public investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions sections of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Counties*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, insofar as they relate to accounting matters. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the County's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions, insofar as they relate to accounting matters.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Counties* and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Julie Blaha State Auditor	Chad Struss, CPA Deputy State Auditor

July 30, 2024

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Office of the State Auditor

Suite 500
525 Park Street
Saint Paul, MN 55103

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners
Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

We have audited Sibley County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Sibley County's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. Sibley County's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Qualified Opinion on Medicaid Cluster

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance described in the Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions section of our report, Sibley County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on Medicaid Cluster for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Unmodified Opinion on the Other Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Sibley County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its other major federal program identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Sibley County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified and unmodified opinions on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Sibley County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

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Matter Giving Rise to Qualified Opinion on Medicaid Cluster
As described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, Sibley County did not comply with requirements regarding Assistance Listing No. 93.778 Medicaid Cluster as described in finding 2023-001 for Eligibility.

Compliance with such requirements is necessary, in our opinion, for Sibley County to comply with the requirements applicable to that program.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance
Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Sibley County's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Sibley County's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Sibley County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit;

- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Sibley County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances; and

- obtain an understanding of Sibley County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Sibley County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Sibley County's response to the noncompliance finding identified in our audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Sibley County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify a deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2023-001 to be a material weakness.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Sibley County's response to the internal control over compliance finding identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Sibley County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Julie Blaha
State Auditor

Chad Struss, CPA
Deputy State Auditor

July 30, 2024

Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Section I – Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles: **Unmodified**

Internal control over financial reporting:
- Material weaknesses identified? **No**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **None reported**

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? **No**

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:
- Material weaknesses identified? **Yes**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **None reported**

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major federal programs: **Unmodified, except for Medicaid Cluster, which is qualified.**

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? **Yes**

Identification of major federal programs:

Assistance Listing Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
20.205	Highway Planning and Construction
93.778	Medicaid Cluster

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: $750,000.

Sibley County qualified as a low-risk auditee? **No**

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

No matters were reported.

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

2023-001 **Eligibility**
Prior Year Finding Number: 2022-002
Year of Finding Origination: 2022
Type of Finding: Internal Control Over Compliance and Compliance
Severity of Deficiency: Material Weakness and Modified Opinion

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Program: 93.778 Medical Assistance Program
Award Number and Year: 2305MN5ADM; 2023

Pass-Through Agency: Minnesota Department of Human Services

Criteria: Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* § 200.303 states that the auditee must establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.

Condition: The Minnesota Department of Human Services maintains the computer system, MAXIS, which is used by Sibley County to support the eligibility determination process. In the case files reviewed for eligibility, not all documentation to support participant eligibility was input into MAXIS. The following exceptions were noted in the sample of 40 MAXIS case files tested:

- four case files which contained citizenship verification but citizenship in MAXIS was noted as not verified.

- three case files where the asset or income listed in MAXIS did not match the documentation in the case file.

Questioned Costs: None.

Context: The State of Minnesota and the County split the eligibility determination process. Pursuant to Minnesota statutes, Sibley County performs the “intake function” needed for this program, while the state maintains the MAXIS system, which supports the eligibility determination process. Participants receive benefit payments from the state.

The sample size was based on guidance from Chapter 11 of the AICPA Audit Guide, *Government Auditing Standards and Single Audits*.

Effect: The lack of updated information in MAXIS to document verification of key eligibility-determining factors increases the risk that program participants will receive benefits when they are not eligible.

Cause: Program personnel entering case data into MAXIS reviewed the support but did not enter or update the information in the system.

Recommendation: We recommend Sibley County implement additional procedures to provide reasonable assurance that the information is properly input or updated in MAXIS.

View of Responsible Official: Acknowledge.

Sibley County Minnesota

Sibley County: Providing quality public service in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership and cooperation.

SIBLEY COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER

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Representation of Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Corrective Action Plan
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Finding Number: 2023-001
Finding Title: Eligibility
Program: 93.778 Medical Assistance Program

Name of Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action:

John Stepien, Financial Assistance Supervisor

Corrective Action Planned:

- Staff will periodically check cases for citizenship. Citizenship verification is supposed to be an automatic process within MAXIS as an interface update with the Social Security Administration. Workers have come to rely on this automatic process, so reminders to staff to check that this process has actually happened, as well as checking cases periodically, will hopefully resolve this error from reoccurring in the future.
- Vehicles are now considered a disregarded asset that is unlikely to increase in value. According to the most recent policy change, these vehicle assets no longer need to be reverified or updated within MAXIS as long as the reported asset has already been verified and entered in MAXIS. Review of this policy will be brought up during regular unit meetings and staff will be reminded that any information reported on an application or renewal needs to be compared to the information recorded in MAXIS and conflicting information needs to be verified. This would specifically include any new vehicles that were purchased, or any vehicles sold during the certification period.

Income verifications are usually the primary focus when determining new eligibility, however this data is still subject to data entry error. Special attention to this in particular will be highlighted during regular unit meetings. Training on how to review, and calculate income on paystubs will be provided to eligibility staff as well as creating detailed case notes as to how the income was figured and the method used for calculating that income. This will hopefully resolve this error from reoccurring in the future.

Anticipated Completion Date:

These actions will begin August 5, 2024, during the regularly scheduled in person unit meeting. Unit meetings are held two times per month, once in person, and once virtually. Health Care is a standing agenda topic and adding these audit findings to the next meeting will be the start of our corrective action. This action will be an ongoing effort to eliminate errors in our cases.

• **Tara Ernst** Assistant Treasurer • **Charlene Pelletier** Assistant Auditor • **Kelly Nelson** Finance & Accounting Manager • **Annie Willmsen** Auditor-Treasurer Technician • **Jennie Radloff** Elections Coordinator

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Sibley County Minnesota

Sibley County: Providing quality public service in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership and cooperation.

SIBLEY COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER

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Representation of Sibley County
Gaylord, Minnesota

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Finding Number: 2022-001
Year of Finding Origination: 2011
Finding Title: Audit Adjustment

Summary of Condition: A material audit adjustment was identified that resulted in significant changes to the County's financial statements.

Summary of Corrective Action Previously Reported: When we receive prepaid ditch assessments by due date of January 5th for multi-year assessment notices sent out the previous year, we will record as revenue in our accrual period. This has been added to the Audit Checklist. Reimbursements received during the 60 day accrual period, will be manually accrued (reversing entry) as reimbursements Due From other Governments (DFG), crediting #6281 and debiting #1261. Prepaid Assessments for the current year will not be accrued.

Status: Fully Corrected. Corrective action was taken.

Finding Number: 2022-002
Year of Finding Origination: 2022
Finding Title: Eligibility
Program: 93.778 Medical Assistance Program

Summary of Condition: The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) maintains the computer system, MAXIS, which is used by Sibley County to support the eligibility determination process. In the case files reviewed for eligibility, not all documentation was available or updated to support participant eligibility. In a sample of 40 MAXIS case files tested, four case files included outdated vehicle information.

Summary of Corrective Action Previously Reported: Ongoing communication with agency Eligibility staff will occur regularly. Unit meetings are planned and will be held twice per month with Health Care as a standing agenda item. The importance of updating MAXIS with reported information will be discussed at these meetings. DHS also provides County and Tribal nations with regular update meetings which agency staff will be encouraged to watch every other Wednesday. In addition, the HCE-PIX meetings are specifically directed toward heath care and the updates that were made to policy and procedure. These meetings occur between 2 to 5 times per month and the information shared will also be a topic of discussion during our semimonthly unit meetings. During the unwinding period of the Public Health emergency DHS has sent out several bulletins with policy updates and the procedures these new policies require along with agency responsibilities. Communicating these changes regularly will aide in the appropriate and accurate determination of Health Care eligibility.

Status: Not Corrected. Policies around assets for MHCP's have changed several times in the past 2 years. The audit findings from 2022 were partially due to the Public Health Emergency and the temporary stop to eligibility renewals. Our corrective action plan was to stay up to date with changes in policy and do our best to update cases with minimal information from clients during the PHE. Since 2022, the policy on assets has changed 3 times. Despite our best efforts, staying current with policy updates proved to be difficult. In all, there were 28 health care bulletins published in 2023 with revised policies, or clarification in procedure. In 2023, eligibility renewals were being processed again, however certain cases were subject to an asset disregard during the "unwind" period. This was part of DHS's original mitigation plan. The policy on assets during this "unwind" period also changed several times with updates being provided to staff by DHS bulletins. Bulletin 23-21-15 provided the update that questions regarding assets on health care forms were <u>optional</u> for clients as their case could not be closed for being over the asset limit. Another update in Bulletin 23-21-19 announced another temporary asset disregard for certain MHCP enrollees. The policy was updated once again in Bulletin 23-21-26 when DHS implemented Mitigation Plan 2.0 and also clarified Post Renewal Policies. The audit finding for 2023 shows some cases were again not updated with vehicle information. Vehicle information was part of the asset disregard during the "unwind" period and during renewals providing asset information was optional for clients. Recently, another policy change to assets was announced in Bulletin 24-21-04 which lists Vehicles as an asset unlikely to increase in value. These assets, if previously verified, must not be verified again at renewal and the servicing agency must rely on the previously verified value in the case file. This would indicate the information in MAXIS will not be updated for a previously verified vehicle and may appear "outdated". Eligibility staff will be reminded to review asset information and if vehicles are no longer reported, or new vehicles which have not been verified are reported, the information in MAXIS must be updated.